



# Yosemite Guide

Where to Go and What to Do in Yosemite National Park

September 7, 2011 - October 11, 2011

Glacier Point, NPS Photo by Adrienne Freeman

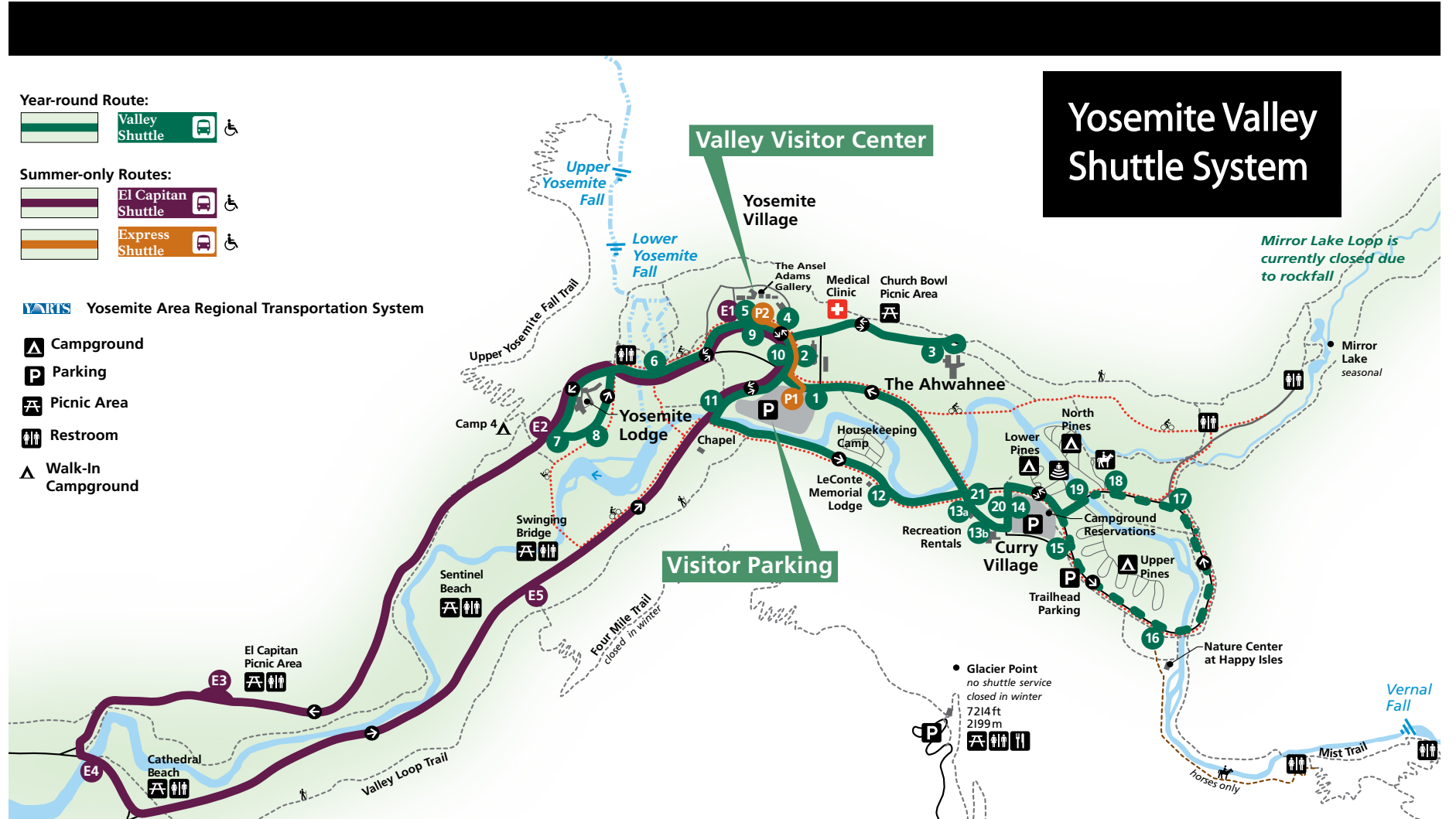


# September - October 2011

Volume 36, Issue 7

Experience Your America Yosemite National Park

US Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
PO Box 577  
Yosemite, CA 95389



## Yosemite Valley Shuttle System

- Year-round Route:**
- Valley Shuttle
- Summer-only Routes:**
- El Capitan Shuttle
  - Express Shuttle

- Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARS)**
- Campground
  - Parking
  - Picnic Area
  - Restroom
  - Walk-In Campground

The Valley Visitor Shuttle operates from 7 am to 10 pm and serves stops in numerical order. Shuttles run daily every 10 to 20 minutes, depending on time of day.  
The El Capitan Shuttle operates from 9 am to 6 pm. Shuttles run daily during summer every 30 minutes.  
The Express Shuttle operates from 9 am to 6 pm. Shuttles run daily during summer every 20 minutes.

Stop #	Location	Stop #	Location	Stop #	Location
1	Visitor Parking	8	Yosemite Lodge	16	Happy Isles
2 10	Yosemite Village	11	Sentinel Bridge	17	Mirror Lake Trailhead
3	The Ahwahnee	12	LeConte / Housekeeping Camp	18	Stable
4	Degnan's Deli	13a 21	Recreation Rentals	19	Pines Campgrounds
5 9 E1	Valley Visitor Center	13b	Curry Village	E3	El Capitan Picnic Area
6	Lower Yosemite Fall	14 20	Curry Village Parking	E4	El Capitan Bridge
7 E2	Camp 4	15	Upper Pines Campground	E5	Four Mile Trailhead

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# Seasonal Highlights

Keep this Guide with you to get the most out of your trip to Yosemite National Park

**W**hat do you want to do with your special time in Yosemite? In early fall, the possibilities are endless. Whether you want to get your heart rate up with a strenuous hike, read a book in a quiet spot, have a picnic, or just hang out, there's something for everyone!

## Hike to a Dome

Want to take a short, moderately strenuous hike to the top of a dome with a great view? You can hike from the Sentinel Dome trailhead along the Glacier Point Road to the top of Sentinel Dome--just a mile each way.

## Join the Yosemite Facelift!

The National Park Service has partnered with the Yosemite Climbing Association to clean up Yosemite at the 8th annual Yosemite Facelift September 21-25. In 2010 over 1,000 volunteers removed over 170,000 pounds of debris in this National Public Lands Day event. How much can we clean up this year? Join us to find out! You must register at the Valley Visitor Center or Lembert Dome in Tuolumne Meadows to participate. Please wear long pants, closed-toe shoes, and bring water and sun protection

## Visit Hetch Hetchy

*"Almost an exact counterpart of the Yosemite... a visit to its counterpart may be recommended, if it be only to see how curiously nature has repeated herself."*  
-Josiah D. Whitney.

Hetch Hetchy provides spectacular vistas, waterfalls, and cool season hiking. (See page 2 for a park map and area information.)

## Explore a Sequoia Grove

Meet the most massive trees on earth as you explore a giant sequoia grove. Yosemite is home to three



A sliver of the 360-degree view from Sentinel Dome, NPS Photo

## Get outside and enjoy your park!

Glacier Point offers spectacular views over the High Sierra and a bird's eye view of the mighty Merced River as it tumbles into Yosemite Valley.

groves—the Mariposa Grove, which contains hundreds of sequoias, and the Tuolumne and Merced Groves, which each hold dozens. (See page 2 for a map of the park.)

## Travel Back in Time

Visit Wawona's Pioneer Yosemite History Center and join "Buckshot" for a horse-drawn stage ride! These 10-minute rides introduce you to an early chapter in Yosemite's history. Fun for the whole family. (See pages 8 and 9 for history center and other program information.)

## Stroll with a Ranger

Learn about the wonders of the park on a ranger-guided stroll. Programs are offered daily throughout the park on a variety of topics including waterfalls, trees, bears, geology, Yosemite Indians and more. (See area program grids on pages 6, 7, 9, and 11.)

## Take a Photography Class

Learn how to best capture the landscape of Yosemite by joining a photography expert from the Ansel Adams Gallery. Several classes are offered each week. Learn more and sign up at the Ansel Adams Gallery located in Yosemite

Village at shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See pages 6 and 7 for times and meeting places.)

## Bring your Little Ones to a Nature Program

Join a naturalist for Wee Wild Ones, a playful program for 2-6 year olds. Activities include games, songs, dances, and art while exploring topics such as geology, animal sounds, bats, and creepy crawlies. (See page 6 and 7 for program titles and locations.)

## Go to the Theater

Yosemite Theatre LIVE offers entertainment and inspiration through a variety of live theater performances that bring Yosemite's history to life. Discover the world of John Muir and other characters from the park's rich history. (See page 7 for shows and starting times.)

## Have Fun with the Family

Learn about Yosemite, meet a park ranger, and have a blast by becoming a Yosemite Junior Ranger or Yosemite Little Cub. Check in with any visitor center to find out how. Stop by the Nature Center at Happy Isles for another great place to explore with the family. (See page 12 for the Jr. Ranger Page.)

## Visit the Yosemite Museum

Learn about Yosemite Indians by exploring a museum collection that includes remarkable woven baskets and traditional dress. Tour the outdoor Indian Village or talk with an Indian cultural demonstrator. The Yosemite Museum is located in Yosemite Village at shuttle stops #5 and #9. (See page 5 for museum hours and a list of gallery events and features.)

## Access for People with Disabilities

Accessible parking, lodging, tours, and activities are available throughout the park.



For a complete list of accessible services, recreational opportunities, and exhibits, pick up an updated Yosemite Accessibility Guide which is available at park entrance stations, visitor centers, and online at [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/accessibility.htm), or call a park Accessibility Coordinator at 209/379-1035 for more information.

Accessible parking spaces are available just west of the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. To reach these, enter the Valley on Southside Drive. Turn left on Sentinel Drive. Turn left on Northside Drive, and follow the blue and white signs.



A sign language interpreter may be available for deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors. Please contact the Park Accessibility Coordinator (listed above) to request an interpreter. Advance notice is requested. Assistive Listening Devices are available upon advance request. Inquire at a visitor center.



Audio tours are available for the Yosemite Valley Visitor Center and the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias. Refer to the Accessibility Guide, or contact an Accessibility Coordinator for more information.

## Emergency Information

### Emergency Dial 911

Medical Clinic (in Yosemite Valley) Open 7 days per week from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM for primary and urgent care needs.  
Phone: 209/372-4637

Dental Clinic (In Yosemite Valley) 209/372-4200

**For up-to-date road, weather, and park information:**  
**209/372-0200**

Sudden changes in weather are common in the Sierra Nevada. Call the number above or check at a visitor center for the most recent weather conditions

### Lost and Found

To inquire about items lost or found at one of Yosemite's restaurants, hotels, lounges, shuttle buses or tour services, call 209/372-4357. For items lost or found in other areas of the park, call 209/379-1001.

## What's Inside:

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*Glacier Point- It's All About the View*
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# Discover Yosemite

Let your curiosity guide you to new places

## Entrance Fees

Reservations are NOT required to enter Yosemite. The park is open year-round, 24 hours/day.

**Vehicle \$20**  
Valid for 7 days

**Individual \$10**  
In a bus, on foot, bicycle, motorcycle, or horse. Valid for 7 days.

**Yosemite Pass \$40**  
Valid for one year in Yosemite.

**Interagency Annual Pass \$80**  
Valid for one year at all federal recreation sites.

**Interagency Senior Pass \$10**  
(Lifetime) For U.S. citizens or permanent residents 62 and over.

**Interagency Access Pass (Free)**  
(Lifetime) For permanently disabled U.S. citizens or permanent residents.

## Reservations

**Campground Reservations**  
877/444-6777  
www.recreation.gov

**Lodging Reservations**  
801/559-5000  
www.yosemitepark.com

## Regional Info

**Yosemite Area Regional Transportation System (YARTS)**  
www.yarts.com

**Highway 120 West**  
Yosemite Chamber of Commerce  
800/449-9120 or 209/962-0429  
Tuolumne County Visitors Bureau  
800/446-1333  
www.tcvb.com

**Highway 41**  
Yosemite Sierra Visitors Bureau  
559/683-4636  
www.yosemitethisyear.com

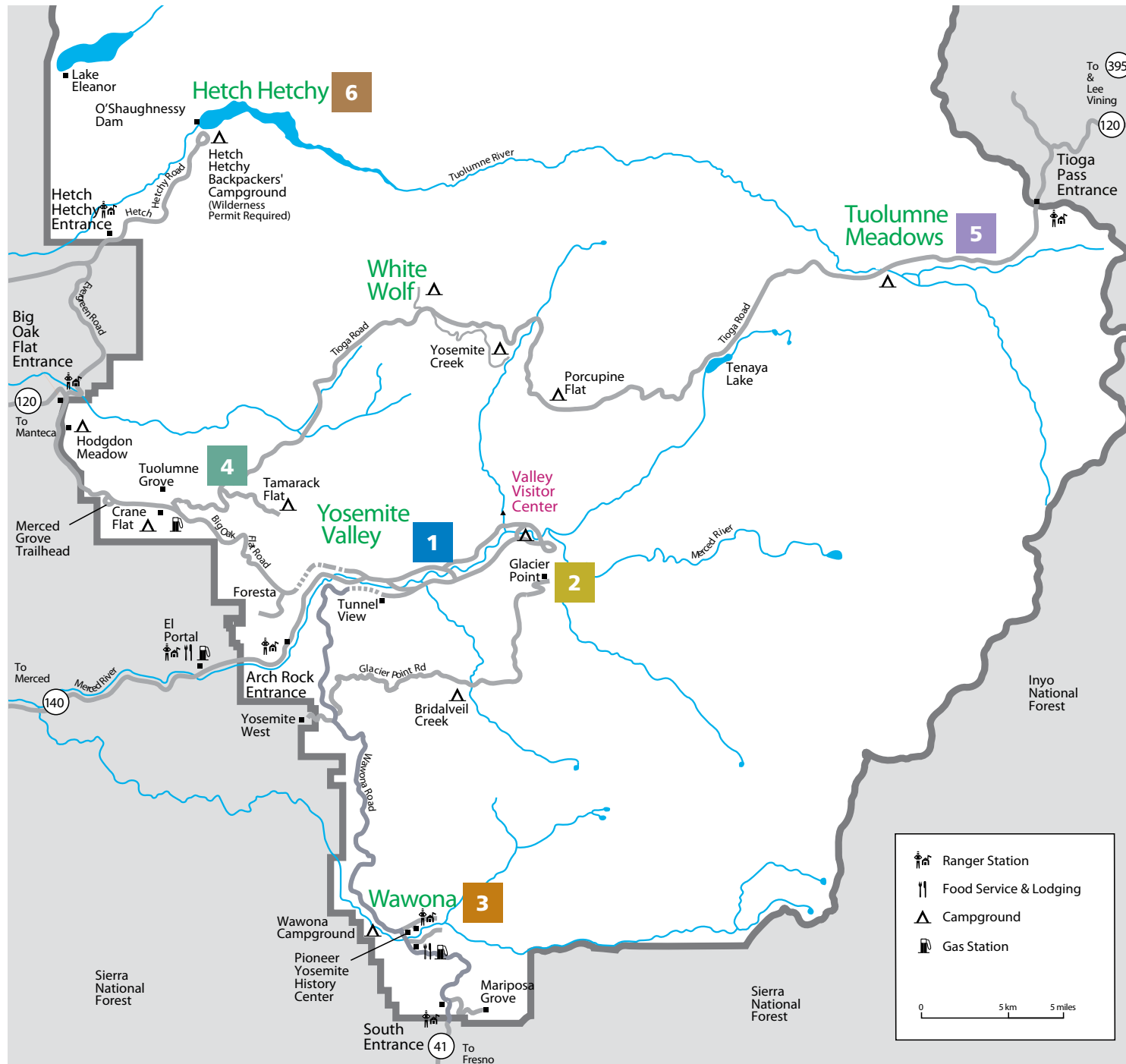
**Highway 132/49**  
Coulterville Visitor Center  
209/878-3074

**Highway 140/49**  
Mariposa County Visitor Center  
866/425-3366 or 209/966-7081

**Yosemite Mariposa County Tourism Bureau**  
209/742-4567  
www.homeofyosemite.com

**Highway 120 East**  
Lee Vining Chamber of Commerce and Mono Lake Visitor Center, 760/647-6629  
www.leevining.com

**Calif. Welcome Center, Merced**  
800/446-5353 or 209/724-8104  
www.yosemite-gateway.org



## Yosemite Valley

**1** Yosemite Valley, open all year, is world-famous for its impressive waterfalls, cliffs, and unusual rock formations. You can get there via Highway 41/Wawona Road from Fresno, Highway 140/El Portal Road from Merced, Highway 120 west/Big Oak Flat Road from Manteca, and (during summer) via the Tioga Road/Highway 120 east from Lee Vining. Yosemite Valley is home to massive cliff faces like El Capitan and Half Dome, plunging waterfalls including the tallest in North America, and attractive meadows. While Yosemite Falls slows to trickle by August, a moderate hike will bring you to impressive Vernal and Nevada Falls. Walk to Mirror Lake, where you will see reflections of Half Dome. Gaze up at El Capitan, a massive granite monolith that stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. Whether you explore the valley by foot, bike, car, on horseback, raft, or tour, you will behold scenery that will leave you breathless and eager to see what's around the next corner.



Mirror Lake and Mount Watkins. Photo by Christine White Loberg

## Glacier Point

**2** Glacier Point, an overlook with a commanding view of Yosemite Valley, Half Dome, and the Yosemite's high country, is located 30 miles (a one-hour drive) from Yosemite Valley or Wawona. To get there from either of these places, take the Wawona Road (Highway 41), to Chinquapin, then turn onto Glacier Point Road. At Glacier Point, a short, paved, and wheelchair-accessible trail takes you to an exhilarating—some might say unnerving—view 3,214 feet down to Yosemite Valley below.



View from Glacier Point. Photo by Christine White Loberg

## Wawona and Mariposa Grove

**3** The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is located 36 miles (1 ¼ hours) south of Yosemite Valley via the Wawona Road (Highway 41), two miles from the park's South Entrance. The nearby Pioneer Yosemite History Center in Wawona is a collection of historic buildings associated with people and events that shaped the national park idea in Yosemite. Enjoy a horse-drawn stage ride or hike one of the scenic trails. For more information, visit the Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio, adjacent to the historic Wawona Hotel. This was once a painting studio for the 19th-century artist Thomas Hill. The Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoias is a short drive or help reduce congestion by taking the free shuttle from the Wawona Store.



The Mariposa Grove Museum. Photo by Pam Meierding

## Tioga Road and Tuolumne Grove

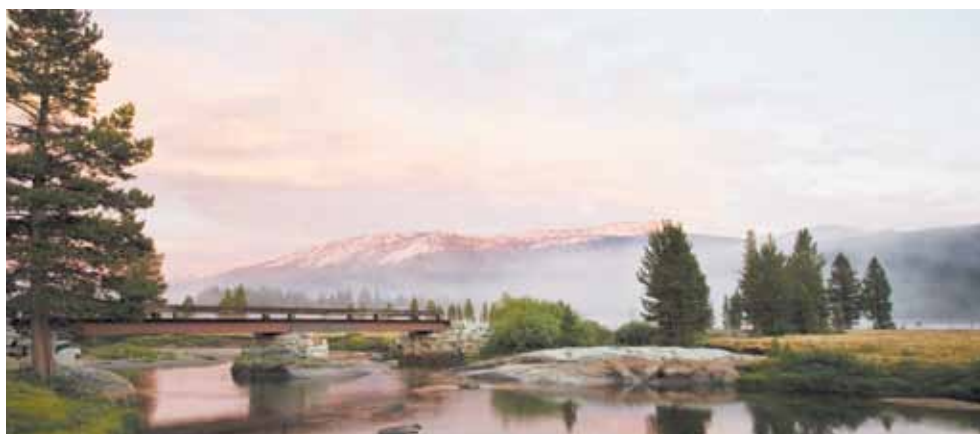
**4** Tioga Road offers a 39-mile scenic drive past forests, meadows, lakes, and granite domes. It is usually open from late May or early June through sometime in November. The road's elevation ranges from 6,200 to nearly 10,000 feet, so it offers an opportunity to experience many of Yosemite's habitats. The White Wolf area, midway across the park, is the starting point for day hikes to Lukens Lake and Harden Lake. To see giant sequoias, park at the Tuolumne Grove parking area on the Tioga Road, and walk one steep mile down to the grove. Or park at Merced Grove trailhead on Big Oak Flat Road and walk 1.5 steep miles down to the grove. These groves are smaller than the more-famous Mariposa Grove, but are quieter and off-limits to vehicles. Remember: walking down is easier than walking back up.



Cathedral Peak. Photo by Christine White Loberg

## Tuolumne Meadows

**5** Tuolumne Meadows provides a glimpse of the High Sierra. The Wild and Scenic Tuolumne River winds through broad sub-alpine meadows surrounded by even higher granite domes and peaks. It is the jumping off place for countless hikes, whether you venture out for a day or a week. Stop at the Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center for information about hiking to Cathedral Lakes, Elizabeth Lake, Dog Lake, Lembert Dome, or along the Tuolumne River through Lyell Canyon. Take advantage of the free shuttle service in Tuolumne Meadows.



Bridge over the Tuolumne River at Tuolumne Meadows. Photo by John Sun

## Hetch Hetchy

**6** Hetch Hetchy Reservoir, a source of drinking water and hydroelectric power for the city of San Francisco, is also home to spectacular scenery and the starting point for many wilderness trails. Due to its importance as a municipal water supply, no swimming is permitted, however. Hetch Hetchy Reservoir is located 40 miles from Yosemite Valley. The Hetch Hetchy Road is open 8 am to 7 pm through October 31, with reduced hours during winter. Hetch Hetchy Road is accessible via the Big Oak Flat Road and Evergreen Road and is approximately a 1 ¼-hour drive from Yosemite Valley. Trailers, vehicles over 25 feet long, and RVs and other vehicles over 8 feet wide are not allowed on the narrow, winding Hetch Hetchy Road.



Hetch Hetchy. Photo by Erik Skindrud

### Did you know?

- The **elevation** of Glacier Point is 7,214 feet above sea level, about 3,200 feet (1 km) above the floor of Yosemite Valley.
- You can see almost one third of **Yosemite National Park** from Glacier Point, including Vernal Fall, Nevada Fall, and Yosemite Falls are all visible from Glacier Point.
- The **Panorama, Pohono, and Four Mile Trails** originate from Glacier Point.
- For almost a century awed spectators could watch the **Yosemite Firefall**, a blazing pile of burning embers that were pushed off of Glacier Point and fell, in a waterfall of fire, 3000 vertical feet to the Valley floor below. The Firefall began in 1872 and ended in 1968.
- Glacier Point is the site where you can find **Overhanging Rock**, made famous by stunts like the one pictured from 1916.
- Want to learn more? Read our **Feature Story** on page 18.



Glacier Point's Overhanging Rock, NPS Photo

# Yosemite Valley

Spectacular vistas and the heart of the park



## The Incomparable Yosemite Valley

Yosemite Valley embraces one of the world's most outstanding concentrations of waterfalls, granite walls, meadows, wildflowers, and trees. The Valley also harbors a rich collection of human stories, from American Indian lore to the birth of the national park movement.

## Yosemite Valley

An unlimited array of possibilities await you in Yosemite Valley. Most involve sightseeing and learning about the scenery. See pages 5, 6, and 7 for more information on program topics and visitor services available.

### Ranger Programs

Rangers give walks and talks every day about Yosemite's natural and cultural history. See pages 6 and 7 for scheduled walks, talks, and evening programs.

### Walking and Hiking

From easy walks to Lower Yosemite Fall, Cook's Meadow, and Mirror Lake to strenuous hikes to the top of Yosemite Falls or Nevada Fall, Yosemite Valley has a wide range of walking and hiking possibilities. See page 17 for a list of hikes.

### Bicycling

Several miles of bicycle paths wind through Yosemite Valley. You can use your own bicycle or rent one from Yosemite Lodge or Curry Village. Bike rentals are available from 9am to 6pm, with the last rental at 4:45pm. Bikes are only allowed on paved bicycle paths.

### Tours

Tours listed below depart from Yosemite Lodge. Tours may be weather dependent.

The **Valley Floor Tour** is a 26-mile,

two-hour open-air tram tour narrated by a park ranger (weather permitting). The tour departs Yosemite Lodge several times daily.

The **Glacier Point Tour** leaves Yosemite Lodge at 8:30 am, 10 am, and 1:30 pm daily when the Glacier Point Road is open. One-way tickets are available for those who want to hike down from Glacier Point.

The **Grand Tour** includes the Valley, Glacier Point, and the Mariposa Grove. An experienced guide narrates each tour. The tour departs Yosemite Lodge at 8:45 am daily.

Call 209/372-1240 for reservations or inquire at the tour desks at Yosemite Lodge, Yosemite Village, Curry Village, and The Ahwahnee.

### Mule & Horseback Rides

Rides begin at the stable near North Pines Campground. Stable hours are 7 am to 5 pm daily. Reservations are strongly recommended. For more information or reservations, call 209/372-8348

### Sightseeing

Some of Yosemite's most iconic features are in Yosemite Valley.

- **Half Dome**, Yosemite's most distinctive monument, dominates most views in Yosemite Valley. Forces of uplift, erosion from rivers and glaciers, and rockfall all shaped

this famous feature into what we see today. Cook's Meadow, Sentinel Bridge, Tunnel View, and Glacier Point, are just a few locations with stunning views of Half Dome.

- **El Capitan**, a massive granite monolith, stands 3,593 feet from base to summit. From spring to fall, climbers come from all over the globe to scale El Capitan.
- **Happy Isles** is a place to see dramatic natural processes at work. It is easily reached by shuttle at stop #16 or by walking from Curry Village.
- **Tunnel View**, along Wawona Road (Hwy 41) provides a classic view of Yosemite Valley, El Capitan, Half Dome, Sentinel Rock, Cathedral Rocks, and Bridalveil Fall. It is spectacular at sunset or after the clearing of a storm.



Yosemite Facelift 2009, NPS Photo

Hours listed are core hours for facilities and may be extended during periods of peak visitation. Check local postings for changes to hours of operation.

### FOOD & BEVERAGE

#### Yosemite Village

##### Degnan's Loft

Degnan's Loft 11 am - 9 pm Saturday and Sunday, 5 pm - 9 pm Monday - Friday

##### Degnan's Delicatessen

7am to 5pm

##### Village Grill

11am to 5pm (Closes for season Oct. 26)

#### The Ahwahnee

##### Dining Room

Breakfast: 7am to 10:30am

Lunch: 11:30am to 3pm

Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm

Sunday Grand Brunch: 7am to 3pm

Appropriate attire respectfully

required for dinner.

Reservations **strongly** recommended for

dinner and Sunday Brunch. 209/372-

1489

##### Ahwahnee Coffee Bar

7am to 10:30am

##### The Ahwahnee Bar

11:30am to 11pm

#### Yosemite Lodge

##### Food Court

Breakfast: 6:30am to 11am

Lunch: 11:30am to 3pm

Dinner: 5pm to 8pm

##### Mountain Room Lounge

Monday - Friday

4:30pm to 11pm

Saturday - Sunday

Noon to 11pm

##### Mountain Room Restaurant

5:30pm to 9:00pm

Reservations taken for 8 or more.

209/372-1281

#### Curry Village

##### Coffee Corner

7am to 11am

(Daily 7am to 11am beginning Sept. 18)

##### Curry Village Bar

Noon to 10pm daily (5pm to 10pm beginning Sept. 19, Sunday - Thursday and

Noon to 10pm on Friday and Saturday)

##### Pavilion Buffet

Breakfast: 7am to 10am

Dinner: 5:30pm to 8:00pm

##### Pizza Deck

Noon to 9pm

##### Taqueria

11am to 5pm (Closes for the season

Sept. 25)

##### Happy Isles Snack Stand

11am to 5pm (Closes for the season

Oct. 2)

### BOOKS, GIFTS, & APPAREL

#### Yosemite Village

##### The Ansel Adams Gallery

9am to 6pm

##### Yosemite Art & Education Center

9am to 4:30pm closed for lunch 12pm

to 1pm

##### Yosemite Bookstore

9am to 6pm

##### Inside Yosemite Visitor Center

9am to 6pm

##### Yosemite Museum Store

9am to 5pm

##### Valley Wilderness Center

8am to 5pm

##### Village Store

8am to 9pm

##### Habitat Yosemite

11am - 4pm Thurs-Sun

##### Sport Shop

10am to 5pm

#### Ahwahnee

##### The Ahwahnee Gift Shop

8am to 9pm

##### The Ahwahnee Sweet Shop

7am to 10pm

#### Yosemite Lodge

##### Gift/Grocery

8am to 8pm

##### Nature Shop

10am to 6pm

#### Curry Village

##### Mountain Shop

8am to 6pm

##### Curry Village Gift/Grocery

8am to 9pm

# Yosemite Valley

Where to go and what to do



Biking in Yosemite Valley, Photo by Deniere

## Valley Visitor Center and Bookstore

Visitor center and bookstore hours are 9 am to 6 pm. The visitor center is just west of the main post office (shuttle stops #5 and #9). The facility offers information, maps, and books. Explore the exhibits and learn how Yosemite's landscape formed and how people interact with it.

### FILM: SPIRIT OF YOSEMITE

This inspiring visitor-orientation film provides a stunning overview of Yosemite's splendor. It is shown every 30 minutes, Monday through Saturday between 9:30 am and 5:30 pm, and Sunday between noon to 5:30 pm in the Valley Visitor Center Theater.

## Yosemite Museum

Located in Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center.

### INDIAN CULTURAL EXHIBIT

Open 9 am to 5 pm (may close for lunch). Interprets the cultural history of Yosemite's Miwok and Paiute people from 1850 to the present.

### YOSEMITE MUSEUM STORE

Open daily from 9 am to 5 pm. The store offers books and traditional American Indian arts, crafts, jewelry, and books.

### VIEWS & VISITORS: THE YOSEMITE EXPERIENCE IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY

This summer the museum gallery exhibit focuses on the Yosemite visitor experience from 1900 to 1946, an era of great change for the park. Photographs, paintings, ephemera, and historic artifacts from that era will be exhibited. Oral histories, digital slide

shows and film footage will supplement the artifacts on exhibit. The exhibit will be open from June 8 to September 30, daily from 9am to 5pm; October 1<sup>st</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup>, daily from 10am to noon and 1pm to 4pm.

### YOSEMITE RENAISSANCE EXHIBIT

The annual Yosemite Renaissance Art exhibit will open at the Yosemite Museum Gallery on February 25, 2012. Yosemite Renaissance is an all media, juried, fine art competition & exhibition on the theme of Yosemite and the environment of the Sierra Nevada. Entries to the competition are currently being accepted. For details visit: [www.yosemiterenaissance.org](http://www.yosemiterenaissance.org). Entry deadline for art submission: November 10, 2011.

*Yosemite Renaissance is a non-profit organization that encourages diverse interpretations of Yosemite in the visual arts.*

## Ansel Adams Gallery

In Yosemite Village next to the Valley Visitor Center, the gallery is open daily from 9 am to 6 pm. The gallery offers the work of Ansel Adams, other photographers and artists, camera walks, workshops, and classes. Activities are listed on the front porch. Call 209/372-4413, or visit [anseladams.com](http://anseladams.com).

September 1<sup>st</sup>- October 26<sup>th</sup>, Local Artist Penny Otwell. Artist's Reception October 5<sup>th</sup> 3-5pm.

## Wilderness Center

The Valley Wilderness Center is located in Yosemite Village adjacent to the post office. Hours are 8 am to 5 pm. Visit the wilderness center to learn about wilderness safety, plan trips, obtain wilderness permits and maps, and rent

bear canisters.

## Yosemite Art Center

The Yosemite Art Center offers a selection of original art and art supplies, as well as four-hour art workshops Tuesday through Saturday (see pg. 6). Located south of the Village Store, the Center is open 9 am to noon and 1 pm to 4:30 pm daily.

## Nature Center at Happy Isles

Open 10am to 4pm (may close for lunch) through September 29 (exhibits only). Designed for nature-exploring children and their families, the nature center offers natural-history exhibits and a bookstore. The nature center is a short walk from shuttle stop # 16.

## Yosemite Theater LIVE

Yosemite Theater LIVE offers entertainment and inspiration through a variety of live theater performances that bring Yosemite's history to life. Discover the world of John Muir and other characters from the park's rich history.

## LeConte Memorial Lodge

LeConte Memorial Lodge is open through September 30, Wednesday through Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm, with evening programs Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings, and some Thursday evenings. The Lodge has a library, children's corner, and a new climate change exhibit. The Lodge is located at shuttle stop #12.

## VALLEY SERVICES

### POST OFFICES

Yosemite Village

#### Main Office

Monday-Friday: 8:30am to 5pm

Saturday: 10am to noon

Yosemite Lodge

#### Post Office

Monday-Friday: 12:30pm to 2:45pm

### EXHIBITS AND INFORMATION

Yosemite Village

#### The Ansel Adams Gallery

9am to 6pm

#### LeConte Memorial Lodge

10am to 4pm

#### Nature Center at Happy Isles

10am to 4pm through Sept. 29

(may close for lunch)

#### Wilderness Center

8am to 5pm

#### Yosemite Art & Education Center

9am to 12pm and 1pm to 4:30pm

#### Yosemite Museum, Indian Cultural Exhibit

9am to 5pm (may close for lunch)

#### Yosemite Valley Visitor Center

9am to 6pm

### GROCERIES AND TOUR DESKS

Yosemite Lodge

#### Gift/Grocery

8am to 8pm

#### Tour Desk

7:30am to 7pm

Curry Village

#### Gift/Grocery

8am to 9pm

#### Tour Desk

7:30am to 3pm (Closes for the season Oct. 9th)

Housekeeping Camp

#### Gift/Grocery

8am to 6pm (Closes for the season at noon Oct. 10)

Village Store Parking Lot

#### Tour Desk

7:30am to 3pm (Closes for the season Oct. 9th)

### SHOWERS AND LAUNDRY

Housekeeping Camp

#### Laundry

8am to 10pm

#### Shower House

7am to 10pm

# SCHEDULED EVENTS IN YOSEMITE VALLEY

September 7 - October 11, 2011



An NPS Interpretive Ranger engages young park visitors during a Junior Ranger Day Program. NPS Photo

## YOSEMITE OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

The non-profit Yosemite Conservancy sponsors this year-round series of fun, educational field programs; they're a great way to deepen your connection to our park.

September 23-25 Miwok-Paiute Basketry – Lucy Parker shares family art and heritage.  
October 7-9 Watercolors in the Wild – Andie Thrans and Wawona's magical fall light.

Find all the details at [www.yosemiteconservancy.org](http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org), or call 209/379-2317, ext. 10. Park entry and camping are included, motel rooms have already been set aside for these programs. The Conservancy also arranges Custom Adventures for individuals, families and groups: [adventures@yosemiteconservancy.org](mailto:adventures@yosemiteconservancy.org).

## You are Yosemite (YaY)

Thursdays, 9 am to noon, Yosemite Valley Visitor Center. Join Yosemite Facilities Management staff to help keep Yosemite clean! Participants of all ages will pick up litter and debris throughout the Valley, protecting wildlife and keeping our park beautiful. Volunteers must wear long pants and closed toe shoes. Bring water and snacks. Tools will be provided, and volunteers may choose to participate one, two, or three hours. For more information, call 209/379-1850.

## Habitat Protectors of Yosemite (HaPY)

Habitat protectors of Yosemite (HaPY). Wednesdays, 9am, up to 3 hrs. Vegetation restoration field work drop-in volunteer program. Meet a ranger in front of the valley visitor center. Wear closed toed shoes and long pants. For more information, call 209/379-1308.

## Yosemite Art Center Classes (YAC)

The Yosemite Art Center is open daily 9am-4:30pm (closed for lunch from 12-1pm). Workshops are offered from 10am to 2pm Tuesday through Saturday. Register for classes in advance: 209/372-1442. Suggested Donation of \$5, supplies extra. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Be prepared to work outdoors. Information on classes is also available on line at [www.yosemiteart.blogspot.com](http://www.yosemiteart.blogspot.com).

Sept. 6-10 Douglas Castleman, Watercolor  
Sept. 13-17 James Weil, Painting Yosemite in Acrylic  
Sept. 20-24 Laura Williams, Plein Air Acrylic  
Sept. 27-Oct. 1 Barbara Beaudreau, Yosemite in Pastel  
Oct. 4-Oct. 8 Mariko Lofink, Yosemite Using Opaque Watercolor: Gouache  
Oct. 11-15 Marcy Wheeler, Impressive, Expressive Yosemite Acrylic

## LeConte Memorial Lodge (SC)

LeConte Memorial Lodge is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm through September 30, with evening programs Friday, Saturday, and Sunday evenings, and some Thursday evenings. Evening programs begin at 8pm and are free. The Lodge has a library, children's corner, and a climate change exhibit. The Lodge is located at shuttle stop #12.

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES

**YOSEMITE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Yosemite Chapel, Sunday 9:15am, 11am, 6:30pm;  
Thursday 7pm; ACMNP Campground Services 9am  
Lower Pines; Bible Study throughout week. For  
wedding & general information: Pastor Brent Moore,  
[www.yosemitevalleychapel.org](http://www.yosemitevalleychapel.org), 209/372-4831

**ROMAN CATHOLIC**  
*Through September:*  
Mass: Saturday, 6 pm at Lower Pines  
Amphitheater; Sunday, 10am at Valley Visitor Center  
Wednesday & Friday, 6:30 pm, 9006 Cedar Ct. in  
Yosemite Village, 209/372-4729.

*Beginning October 1:*  
Mass: Sunday, 10 am, Valley Visitor Center Theater  
**More info: 209/372-4729 or [olsyos@gmail.com](mailto:olsyos@gmail.com)**

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
El Portal Chapel / Worship: Sunday 11am  
Info: 209/379-2100

**LATTER-DAY SAINTS**  
Sacrament meetings. Sunday 1pm.  
Memorial Day - Labor Day. Yosemite Chapel.

**A CHRISTIAN MINISTRY IN THE NATIONAL PARKS**  
9am Sunday at Lower Pines, Wawona, and Tuolumne  
Meadows campgrounds.

## SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

**ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS**  
7:30pm Sunday, Tuesday, & Thursday  
DNC General Office Bldg. Yosemite Village.

**LIONS CLUB**  
First and third Thursday of each month at noon, The  
Ahwahnee. Call 209/372-4475.

**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL**  
Thursday at noon at The Ahwahnee.  
Reservations / information: 209/372-8459.

MORNING	
Sunday	8:30am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 ½ hours. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)
	9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (except October 9) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)
Monday	8:30am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 ½ hours. Sign up in advance at The Ansel Adams Gallery and meet at the Ahwahnee Hotel (TAAG)
	9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (except October 3 and October 10) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)
	9:30am <b>FAMILY CRAFT MORNING</b> (1 ½ hrs) Yosemite Art & Education Center (YAC)
Tuesday	8:30am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 ½ hours. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)
	9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (except October 4 and October 11) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)
	10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> (4 hrs) Yosemite Art and Education Center, details at left. \$5 (YAC)
Wednesday	9:00am <b>HABITAT PROTECTORS OF YOSEMITE (HAPY)</b> 3 hrs. Meet in front of the Valley Visitor Center for a guided volunteer opportunity with a Ranger! We'll be pulling weeds, or restoring meadows. Wear close-toed shoes, pants, long sleeves and bring water. 209-379-1308. (NPS)
	9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (except October 5) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)
	10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> (4 hrs) Yosemite Art and Education Center, details at left. \$5 (YAC)
	10:00am <b>Welcome to Yosemite with Ranger Shelton Johnson</b> (except Sept. 21 and Sept. 28) 2hrs. Drop-in conversation and orientation about Yosemite. Front of Yosemite Museum (NPS)
Thursday	8:30am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 ½ hours. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)
	9:00am <b>CHILDREN'S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> (Sept. 8 only) 1 hr. Lower River Amphitheater, shuttle stop #12, across river from Housekeeping Camp (DNC)
	9:00am <b>YOU ARE YOSEMITE (YAY)</b> 1-3 hrs. Drop-in Volunteer program. Help remove trash and litter throughout the Valley. Meet in front of the Valley Visitor Center. Wear closed toe shoes and long pants; bring water and snacks. (NPS)
	9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (except October 6) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)
Friday	10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> (4 hrs) Yosemite Art and Education Center, details at left. \$5 (YAC)
	9:00am <b>CHILDREN'S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> (Sept. 9 only) 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC)
	9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (except October 7) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)
Saturday	10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> (4 hrs) Yosemite Art and Education Center, details at left. \$5 (YAC)
	8:30am <b>Camera Walk</b> 1 ½ hours. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)
	9:00am <b>CHILDREN'S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED'S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> (Sept. 10 only) 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC)
Saturday	9:30am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (except October 8) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)
	10:00am <b>Art Workshop</b> (4 hrs) Yosemite Art and Education Center, details at left. \$5 (YAC)

- NPS** National Park Service
- DNC** DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite, Inc.
- TAAG** The Ansel Adams Gallery
- AAC** American Alpine Club
- SC** Sierra Club
- YC** Yosemite Conservancy
- YAC** Yosemite Art Center
- YMS** Yosemite Mountaineering School
- \$** Programs offered for a fee



Indicates facilities accessible to visitors in wheelchairs. Short, steep inclines may be encountered.



A sign language interpreter may be available for deaf and hard-of-hearing visitors. Please contact the Park Accessibility Coordinator (see front page) to request an interpreter. Advance notice is requested.



Assistive Listening Devices are available upon advanced request. Inquire at a visitor center.

	AFTERNOON	EVENING
Sunday	<p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk – Geology</b> 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Ranger Walk –Bears</b> (except October 2 and October 9) 1 ½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS)</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (except October 2 and October 9) 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p>	<p>5:00pm <b>Twilight Stroll</b> 1 hr. The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC) ♿</p> <p>6:00pm <b>WEE WILD ONES</b> 45 min. Stories &amp; activities for kids 6 &amp; under, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater LIVE</b> “Yosemite Through the Eyes of a Buffalo Soldier, 1904” performed by Shelton Johnson. No shows on Sept 11, 18 or 25. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Ranger Program</b> 1hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Evening Program</b> LeConte Memorial Lodge (Shuttle stop #12) Pete Devine, Yosemite Conservancy Naturalist “Yosemite’s Sister Parks in China (September 11 only) 1 hr. (SC) Bill Carroll, YNP Post Master “Mail Must Go Through Yosemite: Mail Delivery in the Valley (September 18 only) 1 hr. (SC) John Dill, YNP Search &amp; Rescue Ranger “Search &amp; Rescue in Yosemite” (September 25 only) 1 1/2 hrs. (SC)</p>
Monday	<p>1:00pm <b>“In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams” Class</b> 4hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG) \$</p> <p>1:30pm <b>BEGINNER’S PAINTING CLASS</b> (1 ½ hrs) Yosemite Art and Education Center \$ (Supply fee) (YC)</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk – Yosemite’s First People</b> 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum (NPS) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Ranger Walk –Bears</b> (except October 3 and October 10) 1 ½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS)</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (except October 3 and October 10) 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>5:00pm <b>Twilight Stroll</b> 1 hr. The Ahwahnee back lawn (YC)</p>	<p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater LIVE</b> “Vintage Songs of Yosemite” performed by Tom Bopp. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Ranger Program</b> 1hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿</p>
Tuesday	<p>12:00pm <b>Yosemite Forum</b> (September 13 only) 1 hr. Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep: Recovering the “Bravest Mountaineer” in the Yosemite Area. Thomas Stephenson, Program Leader for Sierra Nevada Bighorn Sheep Recovery with the California Department of Fish and Game. Yosemite Valley Auditorium. (NPS)</p> <p>12:00pm <b>Yosemite Forum</b> (October 11 only) 1 hr. Groundwater Fluxes and Discharge in the Upper Merced River Basin. Martha Conklin, professor at UC Merced. Yosemite Valley Auditorium. (NPS)</p> <p>1:00pm <b>“Using your Digital Camera” Class</b> 4hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk – A Changing Yosemite</b> 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Ranger Walk –Bears</b> (except October 4 and October 11) 1 ½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS)</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (except October 4 and October 11) 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p>	<p>8:00pm <b>Ranger Program</b> 1hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿</p>
Wednesday	<p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk – Trees</b> 1 ½ hrs. The Ahwahnee, shuttle stop #3 (NPS)</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Ranger Walk –Bears</b> (except October 5) 1 ½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS)</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (except October 5) 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p>	<p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater LIVE</b> “Conversations with a Tramp” performed by Lee Stetson. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Ranger Program</b> 1hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿</p>
Thursday	<p>1:00pm <b>“In the Footsteps of Ansel Adams” Class</b> 4hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk – Ahwahneechee Stories and Games</b> 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Museum (NPS) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Ranger Walk –Bears</b> (except October 6) 1 ½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS)</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (except October 6) 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>CHILDREN’S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED’S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> (Sept. 8 only) 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) free, ♿</p> <p>4:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>5:00pm <b>Twilight Stroll</b> 1 hr. The Ahwahnee back lawn (DNC) ♿</p>	<p>6:00pm <b>WEE WILD ONES</b> 45 min. Stories &amp; activities for kids 6 &amp; under, Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater LIVE</b> “Spirit of John Muir” performed by Lee Stetson. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Ranger Program</b> 1hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Evening Program</b> LeConte Memorial Lodge (Shuttle stop #12) Frank Helling, “John Muir’s Journey &amp; The Spirit of the Mountains” (September 8 only) 1 hr. (SC)</p>
Friday	<p>1:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (except October 7) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk – Wild About Wildlife</b> 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Ranger Walk –Bears</b> (except September 30 and October 7) 1 ½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS)</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (except September 30 and October 7) 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>4:00pm <b>CHILDREN’S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED’S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> (Sept. 9 only) 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) free, ♿</p> <p>4:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p>	<p>7:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER CAMPFIRE</b> (except October 7) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles campfire ring, near shuttle stop #16</p> <p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater LIVE</b> “Return to Balance: A Climber’s Journey” Followed by discussion with climber Ron Kauk, featured in the film. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Hiking Half Dome, Evening Program</b> 1hr. Curry Village Amphitheatre (NPS)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Film: Ansel Adams</b> 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (TAAG) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Evening Program</b> LeConte Memorial Lodge (Shuttle stop #12) Ben Cunningham-Summerfield, CA Tribal Member “AMERICAN INDIAN STORYTELLING &amp; FLUTE” (September 9 only) 1 hr. (SC) Tom Arfsten, Yosemite Historian “Meet Galen Clark: Yosemite Guardian (September 16 only) 1 hr. (SC) Lee Terkelsen, Nature Videographer “ACROSS THE RANGE: HIKE FROM SEQUOIA NATIONAL PARK TO MT. WHITNEY” (September 23 only) 1hr. (SC) Marion Patterson, Yosemite Photographer “Photographers Historic Views of Yosemite” (September 30 only) 1hr. (SC)</p> <p>8:30pm <b>NIGHT PROWL</b> 1 ½ hrs, Explore Yosemite at night! Tickets/info at any tour desk (DNC) \$</p>
Saturday	<p>1:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (except October 8) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles, near shuttle stop #16 (NPS)</p> <p>1:00pm <b>“Using your Digital Camera” Class</b> 4hrs. Sign up in advance and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk – Yosemite’s Legacy</b> 1 ½ hrs. Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Ranger Walk –Bears</b> (except October 1 and October 8) 1 ½ hrs. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS)</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (except October 1 and October 8) 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p> <p>3:00pm <b>Fine Print Tour</b> 1 hr. Very limited space. Sign up and meet at The Ansel Adams Gallery (TAAG)</p> <p>4:00pm <b>CHILDREN’S THEATRE LIVE: RANGER NED’S BIG ADVENTURE!</b> (Sept. 10 only) 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) free, ♿</p> <p>4:30pm <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> 15 min. talk about a Yosemite topic, Front of Yosemite Valley Visitor Center (NPS) ♿</p>	<p>6:00pm <b>WEE WILD ONES</b> 45 min. Stories &amp; activities for kids 6 &amp; under, Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) ♿</p> <p>7:00pm <b>JUNIOR RANGER CAMPFIRE</b> (except October 8) 1 hr. Nature Center at Happy Isles campfire ring, near shuttle stop #16</p> <p>7:00pm <b>Yosemite Theater LIVE</b> “Return to Balance: A Climber’s Journey” Followed by discussion with climber Ron Kauk, featured in the film. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Valley Visitor Center or any tour desk. Valley Visitor Center Theater (YC) \$</p> <p>7:30pm <b>OPEN HOUSE</b> LeConte Memorial Lodge (Shuttle stop #12) (September 17 only) 1 1/2hrs. Join the Curator &amp; Volunteers for cookies and videos (SC)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Curry Village Amphitheater (DNC) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Evening Program</b> LeConte Memorial Lodge (Shuttle stop #12) Jonathan Bayless, YNP Chief Curator “Collecting for Fun, Profit &amp; Saving the Planet: Building Your Own Museum Collection (September 10 only) 1 hr. (SC) Lee Terkelsen, Nature Videographer “ALONG THE JOHN MUIR TRAIL” (September 24 only) 1 hr. (SC)</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Ranger Program</b> 1hr. Lower Pines Campground Amphitheater, near shuttle stop #19 (NPS) ♿</p> <p>8:00pm <b>Evening Program</b> 1 hr. Yosemite Lodge Amphitheater (DNC) ♿</p>

Programs printed in **ALL CAPS AND COLOR** are especially for children and their families.



# Wawona, Mariposa Grove, and Glacier Point



## Explore History Discover Giant Trees Find Amazing Vistas

These park areas offer endless opportunities for amazing experiences.

## Wawona & Mariposa Grove

### Coffee with a Ranger

Grab your mug and join a ranger in the Wawona Campground Amphitheater for coffee, tea, and hot cocoa. Use this time to plan your day or to get other questions answered. Every morning (Except Tuesdays and Wednesdays) from 8:00 am to 8:45 am.

### Evening Programs

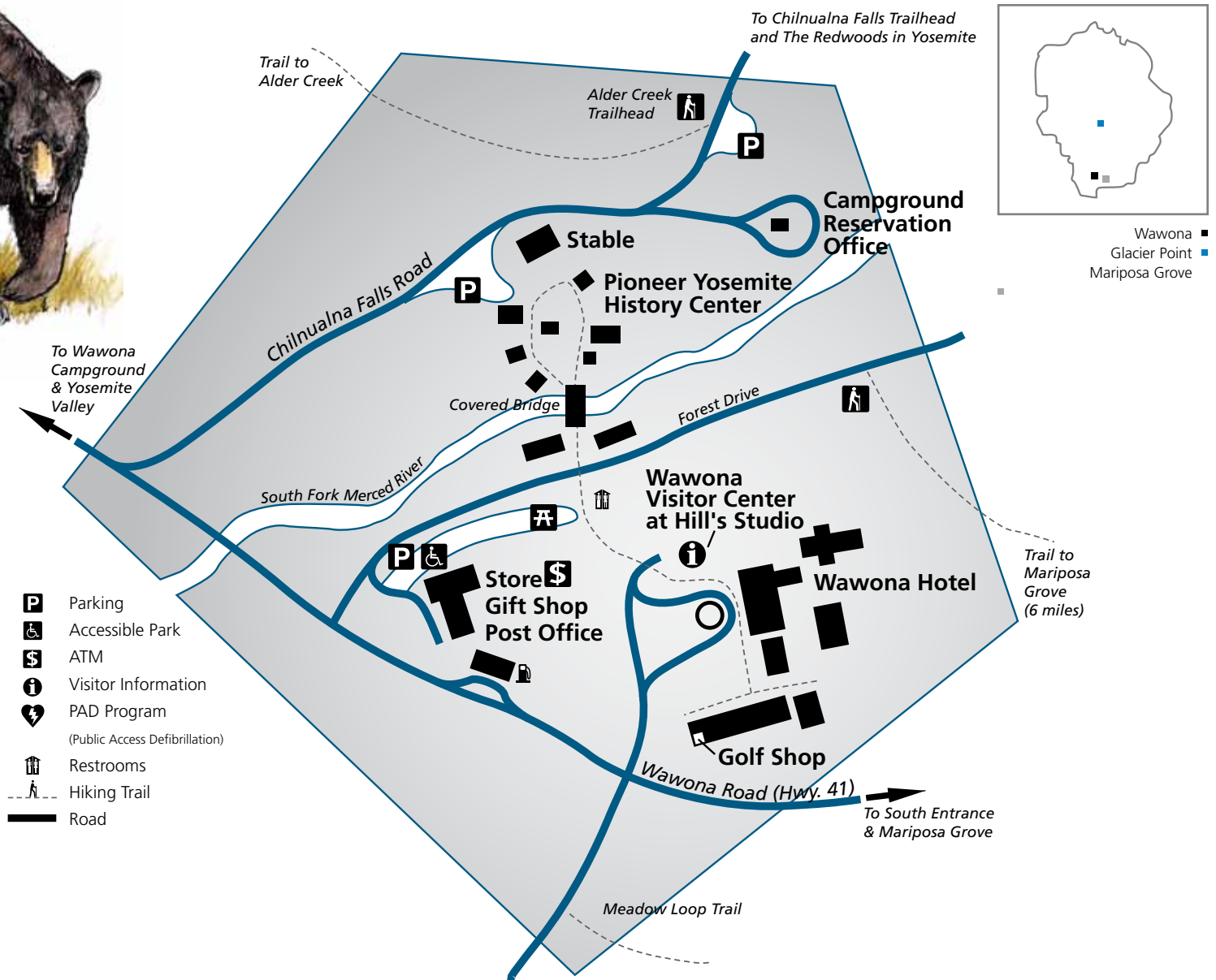
Join pianist/singer Tom Bopp in the Wawona Hotel lobby from 5:30 pm to 9:30 pm, Tuesday through Saturday, as he performs songs and stories from Yosemite's past. Once or twice a week, he will present an hour-long interpretive program on the vintage songs of Yosemite or the history of Wawona with slide or music accompaniment. Check with Tom at the piano for dates and times.

### Wawona Information Station at Hill's Studio

Open 8:30 am to 5 pm. The Wawona Visitor Center offers information about park activities, Wilderness permits, trail information, books, bear canister rentals, and maps. Located on the grounds of the Wawona Hotel, Hill's Studio was the gallery and art studio of famous 19th-century landscape painter, Thomas Hill. Walk from the hotel or park at the Wawona Store parking area and follow the path up the hill. 209/375-9531

### Pioneer Yosemite History Center

Go back to a time of horse-drawn wagons, a covered bridge, and log



cabins. A visit to the Pioneer Yosemite History Center explores Yosemite's history and explains how Yosemite was the inspiration for national parks across America and around the world. The center is always open, and interpretive signs and brochures are available.

### EXPERIENCE HORSE-DRAWN TRAVEL

Travel into history by taking a 10-minute horse-drawn stage ride. Tickets may be purchased at the Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center. \$4/ adults and \$3/child (ages 3-12). See page 9 for stage ride schedule.

## Mariposa Grove

Located near Yosemite's South Entrance, the Mariposa Grove is the park's largest stand of giant sequoias, with about 500 trees. A few of these giants are visible in the parking area. Information about access for disabled people is available at the boarding area.

### Getting to Mariposa Grove

Allow 1½ hours driving time to reach the grove from the Valley. Cars are prohibited beyond the grove parking lot.

The access road to the grove may close intermittently due to limited parking.

Trailers are prohibited on the Mariposa Grove Road. Private vehicles longer than 25 feet are not permitted on this road.

### FREE MARIPOSA GROVE & WAWONA SHUTTLE

A shuttle stops at the Wawona Store, South Entrance, and Mariposa Grove. Visitors may park at the Wawona Store to board the bus. Shuttles operate beginning at 9 am, and the last shuttle leaves the grove at 6 pm, or after the last tour. Weekends only after September 25. Please use this free bus service to help reduce congestion and parking delays.

**Dogs and bikes are not permitted anywhere in the Grove**

## Mariposa Grove Museum

Open 10 am to 4 pm. Located in the Upper Mariposa Grove, the museum offers information, displays on giant sequoias.

## Walking through the Grove

Trails into the grove extend uphill from the trailhead at the far end of the parking area. Interpretive signs between the trailhead and the California Tree provide a self-guiding tour. Written translations are available at the trailhead in Spanish, German, French, and Japanese.



"Buckshot" Burrel Maier and the Wawona Stage Coach, NPS Photo



Geology Hut. Photo courtesy Yosemite Research Library

## Glacier Point

### Ranger Hikes

Join a ranger to explore new areas and to learn about the fascinating natural history around the Glacier Point Road. Also, read our feature story on page 18 for more on Glacier Point, and the journey (both present day and historical) to get there!

### Evening Programs

Meet a ranger to enjoy the lengthening shadows in Yosemite Valley and the alpenglow (or moonrise) on the Sierra high country. Stargazing programs are offered as well. Details at right.

Hours listed are core hours for facilities and may be extended during periods of peak visitation. Check local postings for changes to hours of operation.

### FOOD & BEVERAGE

#### Wawona

##### Wawona Hotel Dining Room

Breakfast: 7:30am to 10am  
Lunch: 11:30am to 1:30pm  
Late Lunch (limited menu): 1:30pm-4:00pm

Lounge Service 5pm-9:30pm

Dinner: 5:30pm to 9pm

##### Golf Shop & Snack Stand

8am to 6pm when golf course is open

#### Glacier Point

##### Snack Stand

10am to 4pm (Closed for the season Oct. 2)

### GROCERIES

Wawona Store & Pioneer Gift Shop  
8am to 6pm

### GIFTS & APPAREL

#### Wawona

##### Wawona Store & Pioneer Shop

8am to 6pm

##### Wawona Visitor Center at Hill's Studio (Information and Books)

8:30am to 5pm

#### Glacier Point

##### Gift Shop

10am to 5pm

#### Mariposa Grove

##### Mariposa Grove Museum

10am to 4pm

##### Big Trees Gift Shop

9am to 5pm

### POST OFFICE

#### Wawona Post Office

Monday-Friday: 9am to 5pm

Saturday: 9am to noon

### GAS STATION

#### Wawona Gas Station

8am to 6pm Diesel & propane available. Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

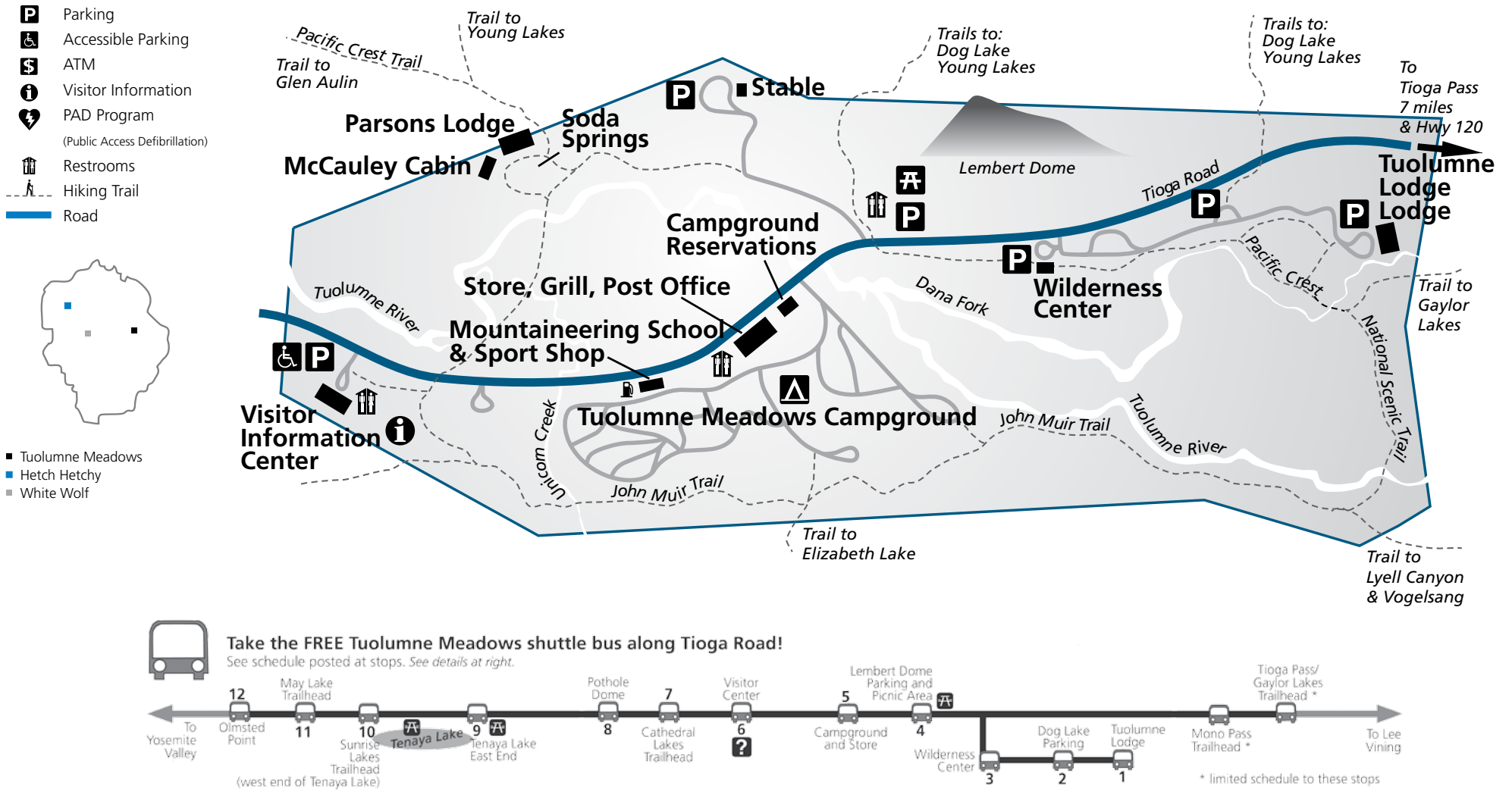
### GOLF

#### Wawona Hotel Golf Course

9am to 5pm, weather and conditions permitting. Nine-hole, par-35 course.

	WAWONA & MARIPOSA GROVE	GLACIER POINT
Sunday	<p>8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>10:00am – 2:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> 10 min. each Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p>	<p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Cliffs and Domes</b> 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/ Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road. (NPS)</p> <p>6:15pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (October 2 and 9 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (September 11, 18, and 25 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p>
Monday	<p>8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>10:00am – 2:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> (Oct 10 only) 10 min. each Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) \$</p>	<p>6:00pm <b>Full Moon Hike to Sentinel Dome</b> (September 12 only) 2 hrs. Dress warmly. Meet at the Sentinel Dome parking area. (NPS)</p>
Tuesday	<p>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music Of Yosemite</b> 4 hrs. Live music &amp; historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel lounge (DNC) ♿</p>	
Wednesday	<p>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music Of Yosemite</b> 4 hrs. Live music &amp; historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel lounge (DNC) ♿</p>	<p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Cliffs and Domes</b> 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/ Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road. (NPS)</p> <p>6:15pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Sept. 28 and Oct. 5 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (September 7, 14, and 21 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p>
Thursday	<p>8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music Of Yosemite</b> 4 hrs. Live music &amp; historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel lounge (DNC) ♿</p>	<p>2:00pm <b>A Short Walk to a Great View of El Capitan</b> 1 1/2 hrs. Easy. Meet in front of the Glacier Point Gift Shop. (NPS)</p> <p>6:15pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Sept. 29 and Oct. 6 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (September 8, 15, and 22 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p>
Friday	<p>8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>10:00am – 2:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> 10 min. each Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music Of Yosemite</b> 4 hrs. Live music &amp; historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel lounge (DNC) ♿</p>	<p>2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Cliffs and Domes</b> 2 hrs. Meet at Taft Point/ Sentinel Dome parking area on Glacier Point Road. (NPS)</p> <p>6:15pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (Sept. 30 and Oct. 7 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (September 9, 16, and 23 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Stars Over Yosemite</b> Glacier Point Amphitheater. Canceled if overcast. (NPS) &amp;</p>
Saturday	<p>8:00am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> ¾ hr. Bring a mug. Wawona Campground Amphitheater (NPS) ♿</p> <p>10:00am <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>9:00am – 11:30pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> (Oct 1 only) 10 min. each Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) \$</p> <p>10:00am – 2:00pm <b>Horse-Drawn Stage Rides</b> (Sept 10 &amp; Oct 8 only) 10 min. each Purchase tickets from Stage Office in the Pioneer Yosemite History Center (NPS) \$</p> <p>2:00pm <b>Nature Walk in the Mariposa Grove</b> (except Oct 1) 1 ½ hrs. Lower Grove trailhead (NPS)</p> <p>5:30pm <b>Vintage Music Of Yosemite</b> 4 hrs. Live music &amp; historical programs with pianist/singer Tom Bopp, programs are available by request, usually given at 8:30pm, drop by the piano early in the evening &amp; ask Tom for details, Wawona Hotel lounge (DNC) ♿</p>	<p>6:15pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (October 1 and 8 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>6:30pm <b>Sunset Ranger Talk</b> (September 10, 17, and 24 only) ½ hr. Glacier Point railing overlooking the Valley (NPS) ♿</p> <p>7:30pm <b>Stars Over Yosemite</b> Glacier Point Amphitheater. Canceled if overcast. (NPS) ♿</p>

# Tuolumne Meadows, White Wolf, and Crane Flat



## Tuolumne Meadows

### Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center

Open 9 am to 5 pm. Park orientation, trail information, books, maps, and displays

### Parsons Memorial Lodge, McCauley Cabin, and Soda Springs

Two trails, both flat and 3/4-mile long, lead to this historic area accessible only by walking. Parsons Memorial Lodge is open from 10 am to 4 pm (except September 12) through September 16. Soda Springs are small, naturally-carbonated springs that attract birds and deer, especially at sunrise and sunset.

### Just for Kids

Programs for children include Junior Rangers, a two-hour, ranger-led program for children (ages 7-12), and Campfire for Kids.

### Ranger Walks

Join a ranger to explore new areas and learn about geology, birds, flowers, history, the Tuolumne River, and more. These walks range from one to eight hours and, except for the long walks, are fairly easy.

### Evening Activities

Come to a traditional, ranger-led campfire program for stories, songs, and insight into Yosemite. Program topics vary, and are posted at the campground, Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, and Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center. End your day with a star program—bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly.

### Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center

Open 8 am to 5 pm. The wilderness center offers wilderness permits, bear canister rentals, visitor information, maps, and guidebooks. The Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center wilderness center is located just south of Tioga Road, along the road to Tuolumne Meadows Lodge, at shuttle stop #3.

### Tuolumne Meadows Stables

Closes for the season on September 11. Horse or mule rides begin near the stable near the Dog Lake/Lembert Dome parking area. Stable hours are 7:00 am to 5 pm daily. Information: 209/372-8427. (Reservations strongly recommended)

### Big Oak Flat

Open 8 am to 5 pm. The information station offers general park information, books, and maps. It also provides wilderness permits, bear canister rentals, and backpacking information.

### Merced Grove

Yosemite's quietest stand of sequoias is the Merced Grove, a group of about 20 big trees accessible only on foot. It's a three-mile round-trip hike (about three hours) into the grove. The trail drops down 1.5 miles making this a moderately strenuous hike on the uphill portion. There is no potable water at the parking

area or down in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you. The grove is located 3½ miles north of Crane Flat and 4½ miles south of the Big Oak Flat Entrance along the Big Oak Flat Road (Highway 120 West). The trail is marked by a sign and a post labeled B-10.

### Tuolumne Grove

The trail head for this grove of about 25 sequoias is near the intersection of the Big Oak Flat and Tioga roads at Crane Flat. The former route of the Big Oak Flat Road leads downhill from the parking area into the grove. The trail drops 500 feet (150 meters) in one mile. The way down can seem much easier than the uphill return to the parking lot. The trip is moderately strenuous on the uphill portion. Within the Tuolumne Grove there is an easy, half-mile, self-guided nature trail. There is no potable water at the parking area or in the grove. Be sure to bring drinking water with you.

**FOOD & BEVERAGE\***

**Tuolumne Meadows**

**Tuolumne Meadows Grill**  
8am to 5pm (Closes after service Sept. 25)  
**Tuolumne Meadows Lodge Dining Room**  
Breakfast: 7am to 9am (Closes for the season after breakfast Sept. 18)  
Dinner: 5:45pm to 8pm (Closes for the season after dinner Sept. 17th)  
Meals are served family style, and reservations are strongly recommended. Call 209/372-8413

**White Wolf**

**White Wolf Lodge**  
Breakfast: 7:30am to 9:30am (Closes for the season after breakfast Sept 18)  
Take-out Lunch: noon to 2pm (Closes for the season after lunch on Sept 17)  
Dinner: 6pm to 8pm (Closes for the season after dinner Sept 17)  
Reservations recommended. Call 209/372-8416.

**GROCERIES\***

**Tuolumne Meadows**

**Store**  
9am to 6pm (Closes for the season at noon September 26)

**Crane Flat**

**Store**  
9am to 5pm

**GIFTS & APPAREL\***

**Tuolumne Meadows**

**Mountaineering School and Sport Shop**  
9am to 5pm (Closes for the season at noon September 18)  
**Tuolumne Meadows Bookstore**  
Inside the Visitor Center  
9am to 5pm  
**Tuolumne Meadows Store**  
9am to 6pm (Closes for the season at noon September 26)  
**Tuolumne Meadows Wilderness Center**  
8am to 5pm daily

**POST OFFICE\***

**Tuolumne Meadows**

**Post Office**  
Monday – Friday: 9am to 5pm  
Saturday: 9am to 1pm

**GAS STATIONS\***

**Tuolumne Meadows**

Gas and propane available.  
Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card. Pay at the pump only after Sept. 18 (Propane not available when store closes.)

**Crane Flat**

9am to 5pm  
Diesel & propane available.  
Pay at the pump 24 hours with credit or debit card.

**FREE SHUTTLE BUS\***

**Olmsted Pt. / Tuolumne / Tioga Pass**  
Closes for the season Sept. 18  
See map, page 10.

Free shuttle service is available along the Tioga Road from Olmsted Point to Tioga Pass. Service begins when conditions permit.

Service begins at the Lodge at 7 am. Shuttles arrive at approximately 30-minute intervals between 7 am and 7 pm.

\*Check local postings for updated hours of operation.

	TUOLUMNE MEADOWS	WHITE WOLF <i>CHECK LOCAL POSTINGS FOR PROGRAM SCHEDULE</i>	CRANE FLAT/ HODGDON MEADOW/ HETCH HETCHY
<b>Sunday</b>	10:00am <b>Ranger Walk—Sketching in Tuolumne</b> (September 25 only) 2 hrs. Lumbert Dome picnic area. Bring sunglasses, notebook, pen, and pencil. (NPS) 10:00am <b>Ranger Hike—Lumbert Dome</b> (except October 2 and 9) 3 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 3 miles. Dog Lake parking, shuttle stop #2. Bring snacks and water. (NPS) 12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except October 2 and 9) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) & 2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Winter's A-Comin'!</b> (except October 2 and 9) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, road marker T-29 (NPS) 3:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except October 2 and 9) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) & 7:30pm <b>Campfire</b> (except October 2 and 9) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)	8:00pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b> (September 11 only) 1 hr. White Wolf Campfire circle (NPS)	2:00pm <b>Ranger in the Grove</b> 2hrs. (drop in) (Except October 2 & 9) Meet in the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias to ask the ranger your questions. (NPS)
<b>Monday</b>	10:30am <b>Tenaya Lake Walk and Clean-up with Climber Ron Kauk</b> (September 12 and 19 only) 1 hr. East end of Tenaya Lake, shuttle stop #9 (NPS) 12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (September 12 and 19 only) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) & 2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Bears and Other Wildlife</b> (September 12 and 19 only) 2 hrs. Tuolumne Meadows Campground Reservation Office (NPS) 3:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (September 12 and 19 only) 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) & 7:30pm <b>Campfire</b> (September 12 and 19 only) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS) 8:00pm <b>Stars Over Mono</b> (September 12 and 19 only) 1 1/2 hrs. Meet at South Tufa in Mono Basin. Bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly. (NPS) &	9:00am <b>Ranger Walk – Bears and Other Wildlife</b> (September 12 only) 2 hrs. White Wolf Campfire Circle (NPS)	6:30pm <b>Twilight Stroll</b> (Except October 3 & 10) 1hr. Hodgdon Meadow Group Campground (NPS)
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00am <b>Ranger Walk—Geology of Tuolumne Meadows</b> (September 13 and 20 only) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, road marker T-29 (NPS) 12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (September 13 and 20 only) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) & 2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Bennettville Exploration</b> (September 13 and 20 only) 2 hrs. Tioga Lake turnout east of Tioga Pass (NPS) 3:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (September 13 and 20 only) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) & 7:30pm <b>Campfire</b> (September 13 and 20 only) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)		9:00pm <b>Starry, Starry Night</b> (Sept 7 only) 1 hr. 1.5 hrs. Crane Flat area. Limited to 30 people Sign-up in advance by calling 209/379-1899(NPS)
<b>Wednesday</b>	8:00am <b>Ranger Walk—Birds</b> (September 7 and 14 only) 2 1/2 hrs. Lumbert Dome picnic area. Binoculars available. (NPS) 8:30am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> (September 7 and 14 only) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup. (NPS) 10:00am <b>High Country Bugs</b> (September 7 and 14 only) 2 hrs. Tuolumne Meadows Campground Reservation Office (NPS) 12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (September 7 and 14 only) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) & 2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Along the River</b> (September 7 and 14 only) 2 hrs. Lumbert Dome picnic area (NPS) 3:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (September 7 and 14 only) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) & 7:30pm <b>Campfire</b> (September 7 and 14 only) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS) 9:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Stars</b> (September 7 and 14 only) 1 hr. Lumbert Dome picnic area. Bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly. (NPS)	6:45pm <b>Twilight Stroll</b> (Sept 7 only) 1 hr. White Wolf Lodge (NPS)	11:30am <b>Meet Your Yosemite</b> (Except October 5) 15 min. Short talk on a park topic. Big Oak Flat Information Station (NPS)  9:00pm <b>Night Prowl</b> (Except October 5) 1 hr. Hodgdon Meadow area. Explore nature after dark. Sign up in advance by calling 209/379-1899 (NPS)
<b>Thursday</b>	9:15am <b>Ranger Hike—Cathedral Lakes</b> (except September 29 and October 6) 6-8 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 7 miles. Meet at Cathedral Lakes trailhead, shuttle stop #7. Bring lunch, water, and raingear (NPS) 10:00am <b>Ranger Walk—History of Tuolumne Meadows</b> (except September 29 and October 6) 2 hrs. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center shuttle stop #6 (NPS) 12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except September 29 and October 6) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) & 2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—The Secret Life of Plants</b> (except September 29 and October 6) 2 hrs. Lumbert Dome picnic area (NPS) 3:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except September 29 and October 6) 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) & 7:30pm <b>Campfire</b> (except September 29 and October 6) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)		10:00am <b>Ranger Hike – Hetch Hetchy</b> (Except October 6) 2 hrs. Bring water. O'Shaughnessy Dam(NPS)
<b>Friday</b>	8:30am <b>Coffee with a Ranger</b> (except September 30 and October 7) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground. Bring questions and a cup. (NPS) 9:15am <b>Ranger Hike—Gaylor Lakes Basin</b> (except September 30 and October 7) 5-6 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 5 miles. Meet at Gaylor Lakes parking lot at Tioga Pass. Bring lunch, water, and raingear (NPS) 10:00am <b>Ranger Walk—Domes and Meadows</b> (except September 30 and October 7) 2 hrs. Pothole Dome shuttle stop #8, road marker T-29 (NPS) 12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except September 30 and October 7) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) & 2:00pm <b>Ranger Walk—Butterflies</b> (September 9 and 16 only) 2 hrs. Lumbert Dome picnic area (NPS) 3:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except September 30 and October 7) 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) & 7:30pm <b>Campfire</b> (except September 30 and October 7) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS)	9:00pm <b>Night Prowl</b> 1 hr. White Wolf area. (Sept. 9 only) Explore nature after dark. Sign up in advance by calling 209/379-1899 (NPS)	2:00 pm <b>Ranger in the Grove</b> 2 hrs. (Except October 7) Meet in the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias for answers to your questions (NPS)  8:00pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b> (Except October 7) 1 hr. Crane Flat Campfire Circle (NPS)
<b>Saturday</b>	9:15am <b>Ranger Hike—Mono Pass</b> (except October 1 and 8) 6-8 hrs. Moderately strenuous. 8 miles. Meet at Mono Pass trailhead. Bring lunch, water, and raingear. (NPS) 10:00am <b>JUNIOR RANGER WALK</b> (except October 1 and 8) 2 hrs. Ages 7-12 Lumbert Dome picnic area (NPS) 12:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except October 1 and 8) 15 min. Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) & 3:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Welcome to Tuolumne!</b> (except October 1 and 8) 15 minutes Tuolumne Meadows Visitor Center parking lot (NPS) & 6:30 pm <b>CAMPFIRE FOR KIDS</b> (except October 1 and 8) 3/4 hr. Conness Circle, Loop C in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS) & 7:30pm <b>Campfire</b> (except October 1 and 8) 1 hr. Dana Circle in Tuolumne Meadows Campground (NPS) 9:00pm <b>Ranger Talk—Stars</b> (except October 1 and 8) 1 hr. Lumbert Dome picnic area. Bring a pad to sit on and dress warmly. (NPS)	8:00pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b> (September 10 only) 1 hr. White Wolf campfire circle (NPS)	2:00 pm <b>Ranger in the Grove</b> 2 hrs. (Except October 8) Meet in the Tuolumne Grove of Giant Sequoias for answers to your questions (NPS)  8:00pm <b>Ranger Campfire Program</b> 1 hr. (Except October 8) Crane Flat Campfire Circle (NPS)

Programs printed in **ALL CAPS AND COLOR** are especially for children and their families.

# Become a Junior Ranger

Ages 3 and up can earn a badge while exploring the park

Yosemite National Park offers a wide variety of wide variety of programs and activities for kids of all ages! To find kid-friendly programs, see pages 6, 7, 9, and 11 of the Guide for program descriptions:

Programs printed in **ALL CAPS & COLOR** are especially for Children and their Families

**Be a naturalist.** Look for these common Yosemite wild animals. If you see one, make a note by the animal's picture below. If you don't see any of these wild animals during your visit, choose one you did see and draw it in the box on this page. Where did you see it? What was it doing? Also, remember never to feed or approach an animal.



Coyote



Black bear



Golden-mantled ground squirrel

## Follow these steps to earn your Junior Ranger badge.\*

1. With an adult, pick a trail to walk. See page 17 of this Guide or stop by a visitor center to choose your trail. As you go, walk quietly, watch, listen, and think.

Write the name of the trail you walked. \_\_\_\_\_

2. Explore with your senses! Record the following.

I see: \_\_\_\_\_

I hear: \_\_\_\_\_

I smell: \_\_\_\_\_

I touch: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Leave no Trace! If you see trash or rubbish, pick it up. Junior Rangers learn to be good park stewards by bringing in a bag of trash. Recycle any recyclable materials you pick up or bring along.

4. Learn more. Go to a ranger-led program or visit with an Indian Cultural Demonstrator. Have the ranger or demonstrator sign below.

Signed by: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Write down something you learned from a ranger or Indian Cultural Demonstrator.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Think about this. Why do people work to protect national parks?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. When you complete this page, take it to a visitor center. There you will take your oath and receive your Junior Ranger badge.

\*Expanded Junior Ranger and Little Cub programs (and the chance to earn a patch) are available in the *Junior Ranger* or *Little Cub Handbooks*, which can be purchased at any Yosemite Conservancy bookstore.

# Bears and Wildlife

Enjoying wildlife safely and responsibly



Sow and Cub. Photo by Christine White Loberg

## Keep Wildlife Wild!

Black bears, coyote, deer, and grey squirrels are just a few of the many animal species in the park that are active year round. Learn how to help protect Yosemite's wildlife.

### Store Your Food Properly.

4,000 to 20,000 calories worth of grasses, berries, acorns, and grubs—that's the typical daily diet of most bears. It's a lot easier for a bear to eat the thousands of calories of food in an ice chest than it is to spend all day nibbling at grasses. Their incredible sense of smell allows them to detect things we can't, which helps them find food—a black bear can smell a dead deer three miles away. To top it off, bears have excellent vision and can see in color, so they recognize ice chests, grocery bags, and other food containers as potential food sources.

### If you see a bear, scare it away or keep your distance.

You may not see a bear during your visit because they naturally avoid people. However, if you see one in a developed area (like a campground or parking lot), act immediately to scare it away: Make noise and yell as loud as possible. If there is more than one person, stand together to present a more intimidating figure, but do not surround the bear.

If you see a bear anywhere else, consider yourself lucky—but keep your distance (at least 50 yards, or about the distance made by four shuttle buses parked end to end). If you get too close, you will be helping the bear become used to being around people. Bears that become

comfortable around humans lose their natural fear of us and may become too aggressive. When that happens, they sometimes have to be killed.

### Drive the speed limit.

The most common human-related cause of death for a black bear in Yosemite is being hit by a car. Slow down! Driving too fast is almost always the cause of these accidental deaths.

### Red Bear, Dead Bear

Did you notice the red bear markers as you drove through the park? Each of them mark a place where a bear was recently hit. Every year bears, hundreds of deer, and countless other animals are killed while trying to cross park roads. Many of these deaths could have been avoided if drivers observed posted speed limits.

Please remember that Yosemite National Park is a wildlife preserve: by driving the speed limit you are helping to protect the park and its wildlife.

### Backpackers:

#### Save Your Food, Save A Bear

Bear resistant food canisters are 2.7-pound containers that can be used to store five or more days of backpacker food when meals are carefully planned. Canisters have an inset lid that bears are

unable to open. When used correctly, bears learn that—although they smell like food—the canisters are not worth investigating.

### Report Bear Sightings!

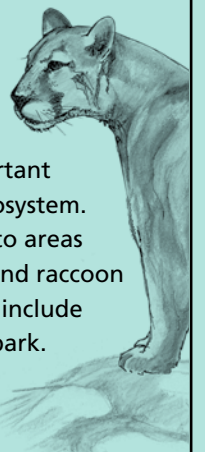
To report bear sightings, improper food storage, trash problems, and other bear-related problems, leave a message for the Bear Management Team at 209/372-0322. Your call can be made anonymously. For more information regarding bears and proper food storage, visit the park's website ([www.nps.gov/yose/bears](http://www.nps.gov/yose/bears)).

### Coyotes

Watching a coyote hunting for mice in one of Yosemite's many meadows can be an amazing wildlife experience. Coyotes are opportunistic carnivores that primarily prey on small mammals. Like bears, their diets change throughout the year with food availability.

Unfortunately, coyotes sometimes change their natural behavior to try to obtain human food. Approaching, and/or feeding coyotes can cause them to lose their natural fear of humans. Please do not stop to feed coyotes that you see along the sides of the roads. This encourages them to frequent roadsides to beg for food, endangering both coyotes and drivers.

## Mountain Lions



Mountain lions are a normal and important part of the park ecosystem. They are attracted to areas with healthy deer and raccoon populations, which include many areas of the park. Although lion attacks on humans are extremely rare, they are possible, just as is injury from any wild animal.

### For your safety:

Do not leave pets or pet food outside and unattended. Pets can attract mountain lions.

Avoid hiking alone. Watch children closely and never let them run ahead or lag behind on the trail. Teach children what to do if they see a lion.

### What should you do if you meet a mountain lion?

Never approach one, especially if it is with kittens. Most lions will avoid confrontation. Always give them a way to escape.

Don't run. Stay calm. Hold your ground, or back away slowly. Face the lion and stand upright. Do all you can to appear larger. Raise your arms. If you have small children with you, pick them up.

If the lion behaves aggressively, wave your arms, shout, and throw objects at it. The goal is to convince it that you may be dangerous. If attacked, fight back!

Mountain Lions are magnificent creatures and native to Yosemite. Generally, they are calm, quiet, and elusive. Sightings are rare, so if you spot one, consider yourself privileged!

## How to Store Food

"Food" includes any item with a scent, regardless of packaging. This may include items that you do not consider food, such as canned goods, bottles, drinks, soap, cosmetics, toiletries, trash, ice chests (even when empty), and unwashed items used for preparing or eating meals.

LOCATION	FOOD STORAGE	WHY?
<b>Your Vehicle</b>	You may store food in your car (with windows closed) only during daylight hours. Do not store food in your car after dark: use a food locker. Remember to clear your car of food wrappers, baby wipes, and crumbs in baby seats.	Bears can smell food, even if it's sealed in the trunk or glove compartment, and they recognize boxes and bags as potential food sources. They can easily and quickly break into all kinds of vehicles!
<b>Your Campsite or Tent Cabin</b>	You must store all your food in food lockers—not in your tent or tent cabin. A food locker is available at each campsite and tent cabin. Food may be stored out of sight in hard-sided RVs with windows closed.	Bears may enter campsites when people are present, and some will even check food lockers to see if they're secured. Keep food lockers closed and latched at all times, even when you are in your campsite or tent cabin.
<b>Picnic Areas &amp; on the Trails</b>	Do not leave food unattended. Always keep food within arm's reach. Don't turn your back to your food.	Bears may investigate picnic areas or backpacks for food even when people are present, so be alert.
<b>Backpacking in the Wilderness</b>	Bear resistant food containers are required throughout the Yosemite Wilderness. Hanging food is prohibited in Yosemite.	In Yosemite and the southern Sierra, bear canisters are the only effective and proven method of preventing bears from getting human food.



# Protect Yourself...

Keep safety in mind as you explore the park



Congestion on Half Dome Cables prior to implementation of permit system, NPS Photo

## Permit Required to Hike Half Dome

Permits to hike to the top of Half Dome are now required seven days per week when the cables are up. This is an interim measure to increase safety along the cables while the park develops a long-term plan to manage use on the Half Dome Trail. **The Half Dome Trail Stewardship Plan Environmental Assessment will be available for public review in Fall, 2011.** The environmental assessment will detail the proposed alternative methods of managing use on the Half Dome Trail and their potential affects on the environment and visitors. To find out more about the plan visit [www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/hdp.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/parkmgmt/hdp.htm).

Permits are not available in the park or on a first-come, first-served basis, however, you can check for cancellations. In addition, about 50 permits may be available one day in advance at 7 am PDT via [Recreation.gov](http://Recreation.gov). We encourage permit holders unable to use their permits to make them available for other visitors by canceling them. You may cancel a permit or check for availability online at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or by calling 877/444-6777. Up to four permits will be available per web session or phone call. Each permit has a service fee of \$1.50. More information is available at [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/hdpermits.htm).

## Keep yourself safe while exploring your park.

There are many ways to experience the wildness of Yosemite. While the forces of nature can create unexpected hazardous conditions, with a little common sense and some pre-planning, you can minimize the risks associated with many activities.

### Around Water

- Never swim or wade upstream from of a waterfall, even if the water appears shallow and calm. Each year, unsuspecting visitors are swept over waterfalls to their deaths when swimming in these areas.
- Stay away from swiftly-moving water. Keep children from wandering on or near these hazards.
- Choose swimming areas carefully and swim only during low water conditions.
- Always supervise children closely.
- Avoid areas of whitewater, where streams flow over rocky obstructions.
- Swimming is not permitted in the Hetch Hetchy reservoir or in Emerald Pool above Vernal Fall.

### Water Quality

To protect yourself from disease, treat any surface water before drinking. Treatment methods include boiling for five minutes, use of a Giardia-rated water filter, or iodine-based purifier. To prevent the spread of Giardia and other water-borne disease organisms, use restroom facilities where available, and always wash hands afterwards with soap and water. In natural areas where facilities are not available, wash, camp, and bury human waste at least 100 feet away from any water source or trail, burying human waste six inches deep and pack out any toilet paper.

### Traffic Safety

Roads leading to the park are two-lane, narrow, and winding. When traveling on park roads you can protect yourself, other visitors, and park wildlife by observing the following simple rules: Please obey posted speed limits. Yosemite's roads are used by both visitors and park wildlife. Use turnouts

to pull completely out of the road, to take photos, consult the park map, or simply enjoy the park's scenery and wildlife.

### Effects of Altitude

Altitude sickness may develop in otherwise healthy and fit people who are exposed to rapid increases in altitude. It can develop at altitudes as low as 8,000 feet (Yosemite Valley's elevation is 4,000 feet). Should altitude sickness develop, descend to a lower elevation.

### Hiking, Backpacking, River and Creek Crossings, and Rock Climbing

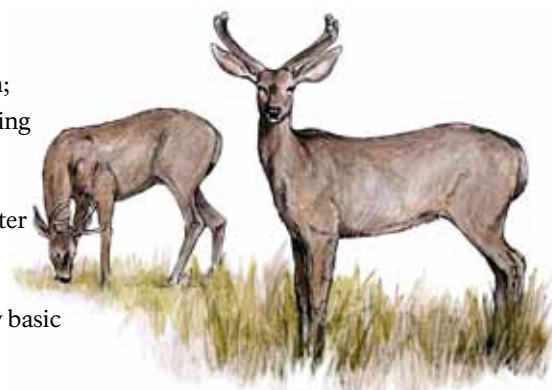
With the heavy winter be prepared for full or partial snow cover well into the summer. Good navigation skills are necessary. While a trail may start out snow free be prepared for patches of snow or for the snow to become continuous. Hikers may lose the trail when crossing a stretch of snow and subsequently become disoriented while searching for the trail. Stay oriented by using landmarks and a map. The large amounts of water from snow melt will keep rivers high and mosquitoes around for a much longer period time.

- Tell someone where you are going and when you are due back.
- Carry and know how to use a map and compass.
- Check weather forecasts.
- Avoid dehydration or heat exhaustion; carry and drink plenty of water, and bring high-energy food.
- Be prepared to set up emergency shelter even when out just for the day.
- Know how to use your gear and carry basic repair materials.

- Any river or creek crossing can be hazardous. Always take extra time and use good judgment when crossing rivers and creeks.

### Wilderness Permit Information

Wilderness permits are required year round for all overnight trips into the Yosemite Wilderness. Permits are issued and bear canisters are available for rent at the Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center, the Big Oak Flat Information Center, Hill's Studio in Wawona, and the Hetch Hetchy Entrance Station during hours of operation. Self registration permits are available at the Tuolumne Meadows Ranger Station until the Tioga Road opens for the season. Call the park's main phone line at 209/372-0200, or check the web at [www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/wildpermits.htm), for additional information. 60% of the trailhead quota is available in advance. Reservations are taken from 24 weeks to two days in advance of the start of your trip. A processing fee of \$5 per permit plus \$5 per person is charged to each confirmed reservation. Check the park's website for trailhead availability and call 209/372-0740. 40% of the trailhead quota is available for first come first serve. First come first serve permits are available the day of at opening and the day before starting at 11am.



# ...and Yosemite

## Protecting park resources



### Protecting Yourself and the Park

Prepare yourself for a wild experience. Yosemite is a place where natural forces—such as rockfall, fire, and flood—are constantly at work. Here, wildlife freely roams. This is a place where wilderness prevails. The National Park Service recognizes the importance of Yosemite's natural processes and is bound by its mission to protect them for the benefit and enjoyment of future generations. While you are enjoying your visit, be attentive to the special regulations in place to protect park resources and those designed for your safety.

#### Rafting

Conditions permitting, rafting on the Merced River in Yosemite Valley (Stoneman Bridge to Sentinel Beach) and the South Fork of the Merced River in Wawona is open from 10 am to 6 pm daily to any type of non-motorized vessel or other flotation device.

- The entire length of the Merced River in Yosemite Valley is closed to all flotation devices whenever the river gauge at Sentinel Bridge reads 6.5 feet or higher. Ask at a visitor center for conditions and obey all posted signs.
- You must wear or have a U.S. Coast Guard-approved personal flotation device immediately available.
- Fallen trees and other natural debris in the river create important habitat for fish and other wildlife. Be alert—they can also create hazards for rafters.

#### Fishing

Fishing in Yosemite is regulated by state law. A valid California sport-fishing license is required for those persons age 16 years and older.

- Trout season runs through November 15 (except Frog Creek near Lake Eleanor,

which opens June 15).

- Special fishing regulations apply on the Merced River in Yosemite Valley from Happy Isles downstream to the Foresta Bridge in El Portal. Within these reaches of the river, it is catch-and-release only for rainbow trout. Brown trout limits are five fish per day. Only artificial lures or flies with barbless hooks may be used.
- The use of live or dead minnows, bait fish or amphibians, non-preserved fish eggs or roe is prohibited.

#### Pets

Keep in mind, daytime temperatures can reach above 100 ° Fahrenheit in the summer. Make sure to keep your pet cool and well-hydrated. In Yosemite, pet owners have a few rules to follow:

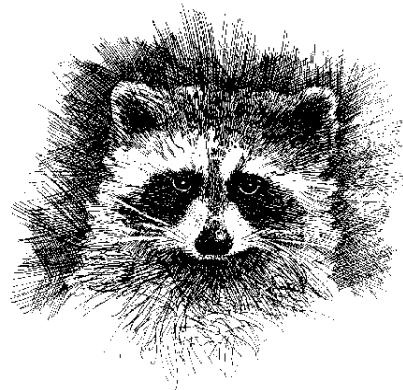
- Pets are only allowed in developed areas and on roads and paved bike paths. Pets are not allowed anywhere in the Mariposa or Merced sequoia groves. They are not allowed on trails, in wilderness areas, or where signs are posted prohibiting them.
- Pets must be on a leash (6 feet or less) or otherwise physically restrained.
- For the courtesy of others, human companions are responsible for cleaning

up and depositing pet feces in trash receptacles.

- Pets are not allowed in any lodging facilities or other buildings within the park and are not allowed in some campgrounds.
- Pets may not be tied to an object and left unattended.

#### Bicycling

Bike rentals at Curry Village and Yosemite Lodge are open 9am to 6pm. Each season, plants are crushed from bicycle travel in meadows, campgrounds, and picnic areas. Please respect park resources and keep bicycles on paved roads and paved bicycle trails. Bikes are not allowed to travel off paved trails. Mountain biking opportunities are available in designated areas outside of Yosemite.



#### Yosemite Guardians

Visitors to Yosemite National Park are the park's most important guardians. With 4 million people watching over its special plants, animals, historic, and archeological sites, imagine how well-protected these park resources could be!

During your visit to Yosemite be aware that there are people who either unknowingly or intentionally harm park resources. Please contact a park official if you see any of the following illegal acts:

- Feeding or approaching wildlife
- Collecting plants
- Hunting animals
- Collecting reptiles and butterflies
- Picking up archeological items, such as arrowheads
- Using metal detectors
- Driving vehicles into meadows
- Biking off of paved roads
- Camping outside of designated campgrounds
- Possession of weapons inside federal facilities

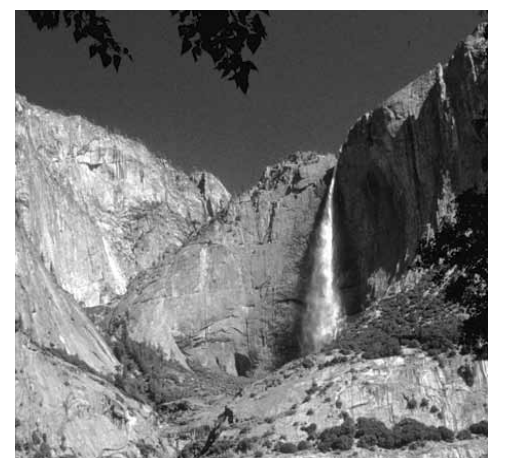
If you see activities that could harm people or park resources, jot down any descriptions or a vehicle license plate number and call the park dispatch office at 209/379-1992.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about Yosemite National Park regulations visit [www.nps.gov/yose/playourvisit/yoursafety.htm](http://www.nps.gov/yose/playourvisit/yoursafety.htm) and find a copy of the Superintendent's Compendium. This document is a compilation of designations, closures, permit requirements, and other restrictions made by the superintendent, in addition to what is contained in Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations (Chapter 1, Parts 1 through 7 and 34), and other applicable federal statutes and regulations.

#### Weather in Yosemite

Dressing in layers and bringing plenty of water can help you stay safe through Yosemite's changing weather conditions. As is true of all mountainous regions, weather in the Sierra Nevada can change rapidly any season of the year. Elevation plays a major role in temperature and precipitation variability, and Yosemite ranges in elevation from 2,000 feet to more than 13,000 feet above sea level. It is not uncommon for clouds to build up suddenly, bringing rain and/or thunderstorms to an otherwise sunny day. In September and October, temperatures in Tuolumne Meadows can dip well below freezing, while day time temperatures at lower elevations, like Yosemite Valley and Hetch Hetchy, can soar to over 100° F.



Upper Yosemite Fall, NPS photo



# Camping



Camping in Yosemite. Photo by Ray Santos

## A primitive overnight experience

Yosemite National Park contains 13 popular campgrounds. Up to seven are on a reservation system, the rest are first-come, first-served. From April through September, reservations are essential and the first-come, first-served sites often fill by noon during these months.

### Camping Reservations

Reservations are required March through November for campsites in Yosemite Valley's car campgrounds and summer through fall for Hodgdon Meadow, Crane Flat, Wawona, and half of Tuolumne Meadows. All other campgrounds (except group and stock campgrounds) are first-come, first-served. Campground reservations are available up to five months in advance, on the 15th of each month at 7 am Pacific time. Log onto the website or call as soon as possible as some campgrounds fill within a few minutes of the opening period.

ARRIVAL DATE	FIRST DAY TO MAKE RESERVATIONS (7 AM PT)
Mar. 15 – Apr. 14	Nov. 15
Apr. 15 – May 14	Dec. 15
May 15 – Jun. 14	Jan. 15
Jun. 15 – Jul. 14	Feb. 15
Jul. 15 – Aug. 14	Mar. 15
Aug. 15 – Sep. 14	Apr. 15
Sep. 15 – Oct. 14	May 15
Oct. 15 – Nov. 14	Jun. 15
Nov. 15 – Dec. 14	Jul. 15

For campground reservations, visit [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) (recommended) or call 877/444-6777 or TDD 877/833-6777 or 518/885-3639 from outside the US and Canada.

### Hours:

7 am to 7 pm Pacific time (November through February)  
7 am to 9 pm Pacific time (March through October)

Reservation offices in the park are located in the visitor parking area at Curry Village (shuttle bus stop #14), the Tuolumne Meadows Campground entrance, in Wawona off Chilnualna Falls Road, and at Big Oak Flat Information Station.

### Yosemite Valley

There is a 30-day camping limit within Yosemite National Park in a calendar year; however, May 1 to September 15, the camping limit is 14 days and only seven of those days can be in Yosemite Valley or Wawona.

Camp 4 is a walk-in campground and is open all year on a first-come, first-served basis; these campsites are not wheelchair accessible. Sites are available on a per-person basis, and six

people will be placed in each campsite, regardless of number of people in your party. Camp 4 often fills before 9 am each day, May through September.

### Camping in Areas Surrounding Yosemite

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) operates a variety of campgrounds on a seasonal basis near Yosemite. For additional information, contact Groveland Ranger Station at 209/962-7825; Mariposa Ranger Station at 209/966-3638; Mono Lake Ranger Station at 760/647-3044; or Oakhurst Ranger Station at 559/683-4636. For private campgrounds outside Yosemite, call the respective chamber of commerce or visitor bureau listed on page 10.

### Group Campgrounds

There are group campsites at Tuolumne Meadows, Hodgdon Meadow, Wawona, and Bridalveil Creek Campgrounds. Reservations can be made the same way as individual site reservations; 13 to 30 people are allowed in each group campsite. Tent camping only. Pets, RVs, and generators are not permitted in group sites. **Wawona Group Campsite remains on reservation year round.**

## General Info...

**To check same-day camping availability, call 209/372-0266**

### Services

- All sites include picnic tables, firepits with grills, and a food locker (33" d x 45" w x 18" h). See page 5 for food storage regulations.
- Toilets are available in campgrounds; however, Tamarack Flat, Yosemite Creek, and Porcupine Flat have non-flushing vault toilets only and no potable water.
- Shower and laundry facilities are available year-round in Yosemite Valley.
- RVs over 24 feet are not recommended for Tamarack Flat, Yosemite Creek, and Porcupine Flat campgrounds, and RVs are not permitted in walk-in and group campsites. There are no hookups in Yosemite campgrounds, but there are sanitary dump stations in Yosemite Valley (all year), and summer only in Wawona and Tuolumne Meadows.

### Regulations

- Proper food storage is required 24 hours a day.
- A maximum of six people (including children) and two vehicles are allowed per campsite.
- Quiet hours are from 10 pm to 6 am.
- Where permitted, pets must be on a leash and may not be left unattended.

### Campfires

- In Yosemite Valley between May 1 and September 30, campfires are permitted between 5 pm and 10 pm. At other times of the year and in out-of-Valley campgrounds, fires are permitted at any time, as long as they are attended.
- Firewood collection (including pine cones and pine needles) is not permitted in Yosemite Valley; you may purchase firewood at stores near the campgrounds.

## Campgrounds in Yosemite National Park\*

CAMPGROUND	OPEN 2011 (APPROX)	MAX RV LENGTH	MAX TRAILER LENGTH	RESERVATIONS REQUIRED?	DAILY FEE	# OF SITES	PETS	WATER
YOSEMITE VALLEY								
Upper Pines	All year	35 ft	24 ft	March 15- Nov 28	\$20	238	Yes	Tap
Lower Pines	April 8-Nov 1	40 ft	35 ft	Yes	\$20	60	Yes	Tap
North Pines	April 15-Oct 3	40 ft	35 ft	Yes	\$20	81	Yes	Tap
Camp 4	All year	No RVs/trailers	n/a	First-come, first-served	\$5/pers.	35	No	Tap
SOUTH OF YOSEMITE VALLEY								
Wawona	All year	35 ft	35 ft	April 20 – Oct 3	\$20	93	Yes	Tap
Bridalveil Creek	July – TBD	35 ft	24 ft	First-come, first-served	\$14	110	Yes	Tap
NORTH OF YOSEMITE VALLEY								
Hodgdon Meadow	All year	35 ft	27 ft	Apr 10 – Oct 16	\$20	105	Yes	Tap
Crane Flat	July – Oct 12	35 ft	27 ft	Yes	\$20	166	Yes	Tap
Tamarack Flat	July – Oct 1	No RVs/trailers		First-come, first-served	\$10	52	No	Creek (boil)
White Wolf	July – Sep 12	27 ft	24 ft	First-come, first-served	\$14	74	Yes	Tap
Yosemite Creek	July – Oct 12**	No RVs/trailers		First-come, first-served	\$10	75	Yes	Creek (boil)
Porcupine Flat	July – Oct 15	24 ft (limited)	20 ft	First-come, first-served	\$10	52	No	Creek (boil)
Tuolumne Meadows	July – Sep 28	35 ft	35 ft	50%	\$20	304	Yes	Tap

\* Exact campground opening and closing dates are subject to conditions. \*\* Open weekends ONLY after September 12

# Hiking



Hikers on the Mist Trail, Yosemite National Park. Photo by Brian Ward

## Choose your adventure

With over 800 miles of hiking trails, what better way to enjoy the beauty of Yosemite than on foot? Ask a ranger at any visitor center for one of several free, day-hike handouts. Excellent maps and guidebooks are available at bookstores throughout the park.

## Yosemite Valley Day Hikes

TRAIL / DESTINATION	STARTING POINT	DISTANCE / TIME	DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION
Bridalveil Fall	Bridalveil Fall Parking Area	0.5 mile round-trip, 20 minutes	Easy
Lower Yosemite Fall	Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6	1.0 mile round-trip, 20 minutes	Easy
Upper Yosemite Fall Trail to Columbia Rock	Camp 4 Near Shuttle Stop #7	2 miles round-trip, 2–3 hours	Strenuous 1,000-foot gain
Top of Upper Yosemite Fall	Same as above	7.2 miles round-trip, 6–8 hours	Very Strenuous 2,700-foot gain
Mirror Lake ( a seasonal lake)	Mirror Lake Shuttle Stop #17	2 miles round-trip, 1 hour	Easy
Vernal Fall Footbridge	Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16	1.4 miles round-trip, 1–2 hours	Moderate, 400-foot gain
Top of Vernal Fall	Happy Isles Shuttle Stop #16	3 miles round-trip, 2–4 hours	Strenuous 1,000-foot gain
Top of Nevada Fall	same as above	7 miles round-trip, 5–6 hours	Strenuous 1,900-foot gain
Top of Half Dome	same as above	14 mi (via Mist Trail) or 16.3 mi (via John Muir Trail) round-trip, 10–12 hours	Extremely Strenuous, 4,800-foot gain
Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point	Southside Drive	4.8 miles one-way, 3–4 hours one-way	Very Strenuous, 3,200-foot gain
Valley Floor Loop	Lower Yosemite Fall Shuttle Stop #6	13 miles full loop, 5–7 hours full loop	Moderate

## Day Hikes Outside of Yosemite Valley

TRAIL / DESTINATION	STARTING POINT	DISTANCE / TIME	DIFFICULTY / ELEVATION
WAWONA			
<b>Wawona Meadow Loop</b>	Wawona Hotel	3.5 miles round-trip, 1.5 hours	Easy
<b>Swinging Bridge Loop</b>	Wawona Store / Pioneer Yosemite History Center Parking Area	4.75 miles round-trip, 2 hours	Moderate
GLACIER POINT ROAD			
<b>Taft Point</b>	Sentinel Dome Parking Area	2.2 miles round-trip, 2 hours	Easy to Moderate
<b>Sentinel Dome</b>	Sentinel Dome Parking Area	2.2 miles round-trip, 2 hours	Moderate
TUOLUMNE MEADOWS AREA			
<b>Soda Springs / Parsons Lodge</b>	Lembert Dome Parking Area	1.5 miles round-trip, 1 hour	Easy
<b>Lembert Dome</b>	Lembert Dome Parking Area	4 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours	Moderately Strenuous
<b>John Muir Trail through Lyell Canyon</b>	Dog Lake Parking Area	8 miles one-way, 3 to 4 hours	Easy, 200-foot gain
<b>Elizabeth Lake</b>	Tuolumne Meadows Group Campground	4.8 miles round trip, 4 to 5 hours	Moderate
TIOGA ROAD			
<b>Lukens Lake</b>	White Wolf <sup>1</sup>	5.4 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours	Moderate
<b>Yosemite Valley via Porcupine Creek</b>	Porcupine Creek <sup>1</sup>	7 miles one-way, 4 to 6 hours	Moderate, 3,500- to 4,000-foot loss
<b>Yosemite Valley via Yosemite Creek</b>	Lukens Lake Trailhead <sup>1</sup>	10.5 miles one-way, 5 to 9 hours	Moderately Strenuous 3,500- to 4,000-foot loss
<b>Yosemite Valley via Clouds Rest</b>	Tenaya Lake <sup>1</sup>	19 miles one-way, 10 to 12 hours	Strenuous
HETCH HETCHY			
<b>Wapama Falls</b>	O'Shaughnessy Dam	5 miles round-trip, 3 to 4 hours	Easy to Moderate

<sup>1</sup>These are drop-off points via the Tuolumne Meadows Hikers' Bus.

## Featured Trail

### Dewey Point

*7 miles (11.2 km) round trip*  
*4 hours*

The trail to Dewey Point takes you through a red-fir forest, past an old cabin, and out to a great view of western Yosemite Valley, including El Capitan (photo, below).

The trail begins at the McGurk Meadow trailhead on the Glacier Point Road.

Stay off exposed cliffs and domes during thunderstorms! Thunderclouds can gather remarkably quickly in high elevation areas. Lightning strikes are a serious threat during thunderstorms, and wet granite can pose a slipping hazard. Use caution!



# Glacier Point: *It's all About the View*

By Park Ranger Dick Ewart



Glacier Point view, NPS Photo

*“...take the Four Mile Trail to Glacier Point” was the ranger’s answer.*

My question at the visitor center on that very first day, of my very first visit to Yosemite, was, “Can you suggest a really hard hike with a great view?”

Being a physically fit twenty-three years old, I was a little insulted that the ranger thought that a four-mile hike would be really tough for me. Little did I know that the four miles were straight up, 3,200 feet, to the top of Yosemite’s vertical cliffs. Half way up, I had forgiven the ranger. Before I reached Glacier Point at 7,200 feet, I was so pleased the ranger hadn’t suggested a five-mile hike. My New England lungs had never experienced high elevation, and my legs had never experienced four miles like those four miles. However, the views along the way, including iconic features like Half Dome, El Capitan, and Yosemite Falls, were unlike any I had ever experienced before. Every step was a new and glorious vista. As I crested out and arrived at Glacier Point, exhausted, humbled, and ready for the promised view, I looked up and saw hundreds of people, a gift shop, and a ROAD!

I could have driven!!!

I’ve been a ranger in Yosemite now for 35 years and every day I thank James McCauley for building that trail back in 1872, so that I could have that all-important experience a century later. McCauley spent \$5,000 building that trail, and he charged a toll of \$1. Not everybody could make that trek, or was willing to work that hard, so in 1882, the Washburn brothers, who built the Wawona Hotel, had a stage road constructed to Glacier Point, at a cost of \$8,000. After bouncing along a dirt road for six hours, and getting covered in dust, people could now experience the ultimate view with less physical exertion.

About the only event that could enhance this view is a sunset, or even a sunrise, thus requiring an overnight stay. And James McCauley was happy to oblige by renting out a few beds in his primitive Mountain House. After a tiring stage ride, or long hike, the Mountain House catered to weary visitors until 1917, when the Glacier Point Hotel was built by D.J. Desmond, one of the concessioners in Yosemite Valley. The Glacier Point Hotel was a beautiful, four-story, rustic wood structure, with seventy-eight rooms, half of which had a direct, unobstructed view of the symbol of Yosemite—Half Dome.

From Glacier Point, it feels like you can reach out and touch Half Dome, though

it is almost three miles away. Yosemite’s total land mass is similar to the size of Rhode Island, and almost a third of Yosemite is visible from Glacier Point. If you are a hiker, you can dream about the hundreds of square miles of wilderness before you, waiting to be discovered. If you are not a hiker, you can still dream.

Dreams, romance, memories... for those of you who have been visiting Yosemite for more than forty years, you know what’s next.

## The Firefall

The nightly event that James McCauley unwittingly began in 1872 by pushing a campfire off of the 3,200-foot cliff, producing a waterfall effect made out of fire was the Firefall. This, unique nighttime view, by itself, attracted thousands of visitors to Yosemite Valley. Every day at Glacier Point, people still come up to me to tell me about their memories of the Firefall, and how they wish they could experience it just one more time. But it was an unnatural event in an area preserving natural processes—a national park. And the thousands of people every night in Yosemite Valley caused endless traffic jams, and trampled the meadows.

The Firefall was just too popular. By the late 1960s, philosophies were changing

and the Firefall was extinguished for all time.

Then, in 1969, the Mountain House and the Glacier Point Hotel burned to the ground. Rebuild or not? There were arguments on both sides, but the decision was eventually made to not rebuild the hotel in order to preserve the view. Now in its place is a granite amphitheater for everyone’s viewing pleasure.

To more fully experience and understand the view, come on a ranger walk, sunset talk, or weekend astronomy program at Glacier Point. One hike on which I guide visitors is back down that memorable four-mile trail, which is just as impressive today as it was on my first day in Yosemite.

Whether you hike or drive, the view from Glacier Point will be with you for a lifetime, as it is with me. And, to the ranger in the visitor center that sent me up the Four Mile Trail all those many years ago: thank you!

*Please see page 9 for additional information on Glacier Point activities and programs.*

Dick Ewart has been a ranger in Yosemite for 35 years. He spends summers at Glacier Point leading hikes and other programs, and winter leading snowshoe walks at Badger Pass.

# Supporting Your Park

## Enhance the Visitor Experience

It takes a legion of people working together to protect this special park for you and future generations of visitors. You too can extend your connection to Yosemite well after you return home by getting involved with the organizations that partner to preserve Yosemite.

This publication was made possible by the Yosemite Park Partners listed on this page. Read more below or visit [www.yosemitepartners.org](http://www.yosemitepartners.org) to learn more about helping these organizations provide for the future of Yosemite National Park.

### The Ansel Adams Gallery

The Ansel Adams Gallery, owned by the family of photographer Ansel Adams since 1902, is a center that celebrates the arts and the natural grandeur of our environment. It cultivates an aesthetic appreciation and concern for our world by offering visitors a unique variety of literature and art, as well as programs that inspire creativity. Visit online at:

[www.anseladamsgallery.com](http://www.anseladamsgallery.com).



### DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite

DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite (DNC) operates hotels, restaurants, sightseeing tours, recreational activities, interpretive programs, stores, shuttles and service stations in the park under contract with the U.S. Department of the Interior. DNC encourages its employees to develop a strong relationship with the park during their tenure. For

more information and employment opportunities with DNC at Yosemite, visit online at: [www.YosemitePark.com](http://www.YosemitePark.com)



### Yosemite Conservancy

Yosemite Conservancy is the non-profit formed by a merger of the Yosemite Association and The Yosemite Fund. The Conservancy has a long history in Yosemite with over 100 years of combined experience supporting the park. Yosemite Conservancy can make the difference you see around you because we are the only philanthropic organization that is dedicated exclusively to Yosemite.

Our mission remains the same: Providing for Yosemite's future is our passion. We inspire people to support projects and programs that preserve and protect Yosemite

National Park's resources and enrich the visitor experience.

The Yosemite Conservancy has funded over 300 projects through 60 million in grants to help preserve and protect the park. The work of the Conservancy can be found in every aspect of the visitor experience from trail restoration, bear-proof lockers, wilderness permits, wildlife preservation, outdoor education and so much more. Annually the Yosemite Conservancy recruits over 400 volunteers to work in the park to repair trails, remove invasive species, and provide visitor information.

For more information, visit park bookstores or go online at: [www.yosemiteconservancy.org](http://www.yosemiteconservancy.org)



*Providing For Yosemite's Future*



### Yosemite Institute

Since 1971, thousands of school-age children have benefited from learning in "nature's classroom" through the residential field-science programs offered by Yosemite Institute (YI). A YI experience strives to foster a life-long connection to the natural world—whether it is in Yosemite, on a city street or in our own backyards. YI also offers professional development for teachers, summer youth programs, backpacking adventures, community outreach programs and service learning projects. For more information, visit [www.yni.org/yi](http://www.yni.org/yi).



## Contact Us

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**DNC Parks & Resorts at Yosemite**  
PO Box 578  
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801/559-5000  
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**Yosemite Conservancy**  
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[www.naturebridge.org](http://www.naturebridge.org)

## MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR VISIT: SPECIAL DRIVING CONSIDERATIONS

*A record number of vehicles have been welcomed into Yosemite National Park this year. At times this causes traffic congestion from 10 am until evening, with delays ranging between one and two hours long.*

### TRAVEL RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Bring plenty of food and water for potential delays.
- Park your vehicle for the duration of your stay. Driving from site to site increases traffic congestion.
- Ride the free shuttle buses to enjoy Yosemite Valley most easily once parked.
- Consider arriving early and staying late, or visiting Yosemite during the week.
- Enjoy the entire Yosemite region - consider visiting the surrounding communities of Mariposa, Groveland, Lee Vining and Oakhurst.
- Ride a YARTS bus to enter the park on Hwy 140 from El Portal or Hwy 120 from Lee Vining.

### PLEASE BE AWARE:

- Congestion is greatest in Yosemite Valley and at Glacier Point. It is especially heavy on weekends.
- Parking lots are generally full by 12:00pm, and sometimes earlier.
- Vehicles on roadsides must use designated turnouts and pull off the road completely. Do not park on vegetation
- After reaching the one-way road on the Yosemite Valley floor, the only route to avoid the areas of heaviest congestion is the left-hand turn labeled for Highways 140, 120 and 41.

*We ask for patience and understanding as we work to help you enjoy and experience the Yosemite region.*